



A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades  
and of  
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire.  
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#### C. & D. Diary, 1914.

We desire to remind all those whose subscriptions expire with this issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST that they should renew the same promptly, sending a postal order or cheque for 10s. to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. Copies of the *Diary* to home subscribers will be despatched as soon as the editions for Colonial and foreign subscribers are safely on the high seas.

We may say that the *Diary* is bigger and better than it has ever been before, and contains much new information, including a large section devoted to formulas for German galenicals which will be most useful to all our readers. The information in regard to the Insurance Act includes a compact and useful Dictionary of Insurance Dispensing, besides the requisite legal information.

In regard to the Medicine Stamp Acts, it is right to say that the Dictionary of the Stamp Duty has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date. It contains numerous new points not hitherto published; in fact, there is not at the present time available a more thorough study of this confusing and intricate law than that contained in the *C. & D. Diary*. We hope to give more information in regard to the *Diary* later, this note being intended merely to ensure that subscribers should renew without delay.

## SUMMARY.

Being a first glance at the articles and events reported in this Issue.

#### Articles and Communications.

A good cod-liver oil emulsion window-display is described and illustrated on p. 55.

The U.S. Pharmacopœia Revision Committee are ahead of the Government Department which prepares the digest of criticisms (p. 72).

The production of cloves is discussed in excerpts from a recently published work on p. 85.

Care in the use of asbestos as a clarifying and filtering agent is necessary, as it absorbs ferments, alkaloids, and other active bodies. See the note on p. 73.

Our correspondence columns contain a number of communications on current topics, including numerous replies to queries which are of general interest (pp. 85-88).

Our view that insured persons who receive sickness benefit are also entitled to their wages, unless an agreement to the contrary exists, is confirmed in legal circles (pp. 71-72).

The communications to the Chemical Society summarised on pp. 53-54 are worth attention. It will also be noted that a bust of Sir Henry Roscoe is now in the Society's house (p. 53).

Three typical dispensing problems are discussed on p. 54, and the solution of the last prescription problem is reported on p. 55, along with awards and facsimile of an Insurance prescription.

"An Official Checker" contributes another interesting article, in which he advocates a uniform Insurance Drug Tariff, and gives from observations reasons for a National Insurance Pharmacopœia (pp. 74-75).

This month's Corner for Students' mixtures gives Dr. Dobbin the opportunity of commenting upon the reactions for chlorates, in which some students were deficient. The prizes go to Mr. A. C. Pearce and Mr. H. W. Hind (p. 52).

#### News of the Week.

There is a promise that the supply of radium may be increased (p. 57).

A strange case, in which the name of Edwards' Harlene was fraudulently used, is reported on p. 58.

Some further particulars in regard to the formation of the Dental Society of Ireland are given on p. 59.

Several interesting topics were discussed at the meeting of the Paris Society of Pharmacy reported on p. 60.

To administer cocaine to a dental patient against her will constitutes assault. Damages have been awarded in a case of the kind (p. 62).

What is malt vinegar? The question has been discussed in the King's Bench Division of the High Court, and not quite decisively answered (p. 63).

The General Medical Council is holding its Winter Session in London this week, Mr. Tonies presiding in the absence of Sir Donald MacAlister (pp. 73-74).

The Medical Benefit Regulations for Scotland are the principal items of Insurance dispensing news this week. The rural area grievance is, so far as chemists are concerned, modified in their favour. See pp. 75 and 76. Contests for Pharmaceutical Committees are unavoidable in important centres (pp. 76-77).

A cocaine snuff has been sold for some time by publicans and tobacconists in Birmingham. The Pharmaceutical Society have prosecuted successfully in one case, the defence being that the sale under Section 17 conditions comes under the *Berry v. Henderson* decision. On this point the defence want a case for appeal to be stated (p. 65).

#### Trade and Market Matters.

The tax on the collection of buchu in the principal forest reserves at the Cape has been increased from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per lb. (p. 80).

Opium, belladonna-root, areca, English castor oil, chillies, morphine, and codeine are more or less dearer. Quicksilver (seconds), lemon oil (spot), and euphorbia pil. are firmer. Benzols, red and white leads, Bourbon geranium oil, cedula, and fennel seed are among the cheaper products (p. 81).

## CORNER FOR STUDENTS.

Conducted by Leonard Dobbin, Ph.D.

All communications for this section should be addressed thus:  
 "Corner for Students, 'The Chemist and Druggist,' 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C."

### Report on November Analytical Exercise.

THE powder distributed to students on October 29 contained four parts by weight of cupric sulphate, five parts of potassium chromic sulphate (chrome alum), and one part of potassium chlorate. The calculated composition of such a mixture is :

Cu	...	...	...	10.2
Cr	...	...	...	5.2
K	...	...	...	7.1
SO <sub>4</sub>	...	...	...	34.6
ClO <sub>3</sub>	...	...	...	6.8
H <sub>2</sub> O	...	...	...	36.1
				100.0

The powder also contained, as impurities, traces of iron and magnesium.

Samples of the powder were distributed to seventy-six students, and fifty-one reports were sent in for examination. All of our correspondents were successful in detecting copper and the sulphuric-acid radical. The failures in the detection of the other constituents were : Chromium, 17; potassium, 8; chloric-acid radical, 37. Four students who detected chromium reported it to be present as a chromate, and ten failed to observe the abundant evolution of water when the powder was heated in a dry test-tube.

This exercise was designed as a comparatively simple one for the opening of the tournament series, and the failure of nearly three-fourths of our correspondents to detect the chloric-acid radical was not anticipated. The fact that there were so many failures must be attributed to insufficient familiarity with the reactions of chlorates, since these reactions are highly characteristic, and they were afforded by the mixture in a quite sufficiently conspicuous manner for easy recognition by anyone possessing experience of their special features. Thus the odour of chlorine peroxide, evolved when the powder was gently heated with concentrated sulphuric acid, and that of euchlorine (a mixture of chlorine and chlorine peroxide) liberated on heating it with moderately concentrated hydrochloric acid, could scarcely remain unobserved, or be mistaken, by any person familiar with them from sufficient experience in studying the reactions of known substances. Further, the slight, but distinct, deflagration on charcoal and the explosions of chlorine peroxide which were observed by a few students were suggestive indications which, if carefully followed up, should have led to the detection of the chlorate.

The chlorine peroxide evolved when the powder was gently heated with concentrated sulphuric acid was variously mistaken for chlorine, sulphur dioxide, and nitrogen peroxide or nitric acid ; and a number of those who reported these as products of the reaction sought confirmation of the presence of a chloride, a hypochlorite, a sulphite, a nitrite, or a nitrate by tests which sometimes appeared to furnish what was looked for. Thus the "ring" test for a nitrate seemed to give a positive result ; but the slight observed effect was really due to the chlorate. We may state, however, that most of the supposed confirmatory reactions for chloride, hypochlorite, sulphite, and nitrite, some of which were rather frequently reported, failed to materialise in our hands, and that we find ourselves constrained to regard them as pen-and-ink embellishments, and not as test-tube actualities. We unhesitatingly class in the same category the statements that portions of the sodium-carbonate extract to be tested for acid radicals gave, after acidification with acetic acid, yellow and red precipitates respectively on the addition of lead acetate and silver nitrate ; as also the still more startling statement that on dissolving a portion of the iron-group precipitate (consisting, as it did, of chromic

hydroxide) in hydrochloric acid and adding silver nitrate, the presence of a chromate was indicated by the formation of a brick-red precipitate ! We trust these remarks may meet the eyes of the authors of these amazing flights of imagination, and that the writers of the reports will proceed to ascertain for themselves (this time, by actually applying the tests) the impossibility of the reactions as described ever having taken place.

The failures to detect chromium were more numerous than was expected, in view of the facts that it was the only iron-group metal present in quantity, and that it was present to the extent of more than 5 per cent. Many of those who failed to recognise its presence reported aluminium instead, while a few did not observe any precipitate in the iron group. Both as regards colour and reactions chromic and aluminium hydroxides differ so much that it is difficult to understand how the former could be mistaken for the latter. The failure to obtain any precipitate of either in the iron group was probably occasioned by the addition of ammonia in too great excess to very dilute solutions. Both hydroxides are quite sensibly soluble in excess of ammonia, and in dilute solutions a precipitate may not appear at all unless the liquid is boiled until the escaping water vapour is ammonia-free.

The presence of an ammonium compound was reported in a number of cases, but we failed to obtain any evidence of it in a carefully conducted test.

The omissions to report the application of any tests for bismuth, cadmium, and aluminium were very numerous on this occasion.

### PRIZES.

The First Prize for the best analysis has been awarded to

ARTHUR C. PEARCE, c/o A. E. Beeston, 76 St. Giles Street, Norwich.

The Second Prize has been awarded to

H. W. HIND, Lindenhurst, East Avenue, Leicester.

*First Prize.*—Any scientific book that is published at a price not greatly exceeding half-a-guinea may be taken as a first prize.

*Second Prize.*—Any scientific book which is sold for about five shillings may be taken as a second prize.

The students to whom prizes are awarded are requested to write at once to the Publisher naming the book or books they select.

### MARKS AWARDED FOR ANALYSES.

#### 1. Correspondents who are unqualified :

A. C. Pearce (1st prize)	98	R. M. S. ....	67
H. W. Hind (2nd prize)	95	J. P. B. ....	65
Zincona .....	93	E. Caird .....	64
Brucine .....	92	S. Robson .....	64
Myron .....	92	Nil sine labore .....	64
Chem .....	91	Spreneus .....	63
Ozone .....	91	Aa .....	62
Aspirin .....	87	F. V. B. ....	62
Jos .....	87	G. Chave .....	56
A. B. C. ....	82	A. C. S. ....	56
Labor omnia vincit .....	81	Nitratc .....	56
Kino .....	78	F. Bressington .....	54
Cardi .....	77	A. H. Bridges .....	54
G. D. T. ....	77	M. J. Pickering .....	54
D. Gregory .....	74	A. D. T. ....	54
Simili .....	74	Nomen .....	54
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Bertie .....	71	M. G. T. ....	46
En Avant .....	71	Sal Kom .....	43
Student .....	71	Acol .....	36
Victory .....	71	Newrad .....	35
Dixie .....	70	Onyx .....	34
Epi .....	67	Unus .....	32

#### 2. Correspondents who are qualified :

Ajax .....	83	Virus .....	90
Old Nick .....	74	Xylem .....	92
Skylight .....	78		

### To CORRESPONDENTS.

H. W. HIND.—In the case of this mixture, the best way to test for a chloride was to add silver nitrate to part of the original aqueous solution to which dilute nitric acid had been added.

ZINCONA.—The white insoluble residue obtained on boiling the hydrogen-sulphide precipitate with concentrated nitric

acid no doubt consisted of sulphur. The solution to be tested for acid radicals should have been prepared by treating the original powder with water and pure sodium carbonates, rather than with solution of potassium hydroxide. The chloride which you found was probably introduced chiefly as impurity in the latter reagent.

**BRUCINE.**—Use sodium hydrogen tartrate rather than tartaric acid in testing for potassium; but note that, even when employing the former, the test is one of moderate delicacy only. You did not prove cadmium and aluminium absent. The powder did not contain the acetic-acid radical.

**MYRON.**—Read the second sentence of the reply immediately preceding.

**OZONE.**—In the preliminary examination the simple heating of the powder in a dry test-tube would have caused the evolution of water, which you failed to observe.

**ASPIRIN.**—We believe the precipitate you supposed to be nickel sulphide really consisted of copper sulphide, and that its formation was due to insufficient treatment of the original solution with hydrogen sulphide prior to the first filtration. Cadmium should have been proved absent.

**Jos.**—When chromic hydroxide is dissolved in acetic acid the solution does not contain a chromate, and therefore the addition to it of lead acetate could not produce a yellow precipitate of lead chromate. The quantity of the mixture supplied was limited, intentionally, to about 15 grains; the object being to encourage economy of material and accuracy of observation.

**LABOR OMNIA VINCIT.**—Dilute hydrochloric acid—not the concentrated reagent—should be employed to ascertain the solubility or otherwise of a precipitate supposed to consist of barium sulphate.

**CARDI.**—Read the second sentence of the reply to "Zincona" and the first sentence of that to "Brucine."

**G. L. T.**—You should have proved the absence of aluminium. Please send your name with future reports if you desire to be regarded as a competitor for tournament or other prizes.

**SIMILI.**—As a first attempt your report is by no means unpromising. Give further details regarding the methods you employ in proving the various radicals present or absent. For example, besides showing in the present case that the hydrogen-sulphide precipitate contained cupric sulphide, you should have proved the absence of mercury, lead, bismuth, cadmium, and the metals of the arsenic group. With perseverance your work is certain to improve.

**BERTIE.**—The powder did not contain any compound of tin.

**EN AVANT.**—We could not detect manganese in appreciable quantity or any traces of the boric-acid radical. Read the first sentence of the reply to "Brucine."

**VICTORY.**—Your analysis should have included a systematic examination for the several metallic radicals of the copper group: the mere proof of the presence of copper in this group was insufficient.

**DIXIE.**—Your analysis is a very fair attempt, but a somewhat fuller and more systematic report would have been better. You should have observed the evolution of water on heating the powder in a dry test-tube. See the general remarks as to why excess of ammonia failed to yield a precipitate of chromic hydroxide. Use distilled water throughout in future analyses in order to avoid contamination by impurities derived from tap-water. You may pick up many useful hints by a careful study of the general remarks and of the replies to other students, even although the points referred to did not present themselves as difficulties in your own case.

**EPI.**—Having detected chromium, you should have taken steps to prove definitely whether it was present as chromic salt or as chromate.

**R. M. S.**—The hydrogen-sulphide precipitate should have been tested for bismuth and cadmium, as well as for mercury, lead, and copper.

**J. P. B.**—You state that you filtered after adding ammonium carbonate as group reagent, although there was no precipitate; surely this was unnecessary! Note that the non-formation of a sublimate on heating the powder in a dry tube did not prove the absence of arsenic and ammonium compounds.

**E. CAIRD.**—The reactions which led you to conclude that a nitrite was present were most likely due to the chlorate. The sulphur dioxide evolved when the powder was heated alone was due to the decomposition of the sulphates. Read also the reply to "Aspirin."

**NIL SINE LABORE.**—Read the final sentence of the reply to "Dixie," and practise and persevere.

**AA.**—It did not suffice to detect one metallic radical each in the copper-group and iron-group precipitates and to leave all the others untested for—or, at any rate, to give no indication of how they were proved absent.

**G. CHAVE.**—It is not safe to assume that a dark precipitate produced by hydrogen sulphide may not contain cad-

mium, antimonous, or arsenious sulphide, since the dark colour of, say, mercuric or cupric sulphide might effectually mask the lighter-coloured sulphide. We were not able to obtain the reactions which led you to report the presence of a sulphide.

**A. C. S.**—The precipitate which you supposed to be calcium oxalate no doubt consisted of calcium sulphate. Solution of the latter should have been employed as reagent instead of calcium chloride.

**NITRATE.**—Sodium hydrogen tartrate, and not tartaric acid, should have been used in testing for potassium, but it was quite inadmissible to apply the test to the original aqueous solution of the powder.

**F. BRESSINGTON and A. H. BRIDGES.**—A preliminary examination of the powder should have been made before you proceeded to the systematic analysis.

**M. G. T.**—The presence of a heavy metal should not have deterred you from heating a portion of the powder on a platinum wire in the preliminary testing. We were unable to confirm the presence of mercury and manganese which you reported.

**SAL KOM.**—Cadmium sulphide is yellow, not dark-coloured as you seem to suppose.

**ACOL.**—We recommend you to prepare a mixture in imitation of the powder supplied to you, and to practise upon it until you thoroughly master its behaviour.

**NEWRAD.**—Your supposed precipitate of calcium citrate consisted of calcium sulphate. Read the replies to "A. C. S." and to "Acol."

**ONYX.**—Read the replies to "Aspirin," to "Labor omnia vincit," and to "Acol."

**UNUS.**—The original aqueous solution was acid, not alkaline, and did not turn red litmus blue.

**SKYLIGHT.**—Your preliminary testing should have been reported fully; when only the positive results observed are reported it is not possible to determine whether failures to detect constituents are due to omission to apply tests or to insufficiently careful observation of their results.

## CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

THE former students of Sir Henry Roscoe, F.R.S., decided some time ago to commemorate his eightieth birthday in January last by presenting his bust to the Chemical Society. The formal presentation was made at the Society's Rooms, Burlington House, on the afternoon of November 20, by Sir Edward Thorpe, C.B., the distinguished audience including Sir Henry and Miss Roscoe. A congratulatory address, which was presented in preliminary form on the actual birthday, was now handed over, signed by about 140 of Sir Henry's former students in all parts of the world. In unveiling the bust, Sir Edward Thorpe asked, on behalf of the subscribers, the President of the Chemical Society to accept it. He also extended to Mr. Albert Drury, R.A., the thanks of the committee for the excellent likeness that he had secured. Sir Henry was asked to accept a replica of the bust, in course of preparation, for himself and the members of his family.

Sir Henry Roscoe, in acknowledging the gifts, said no honours, no rewards compared with this, and to those men, whom he liked to look on as his scientific sons, went his heartfelt thanks.

The bust was on the table at the ordinary Scientific Meeting held in the evening, the opening remarks of the Chairman (Professor W. H. Perkin, President) having reference thereto. There was a better attendance than usual at the meeting. The first paper, by Dr. R. N. Pickard and Mr. J. Kenyon, continued investigations on the relations between

### ROTATORY POWER AND CHEMICAL CONSTITUTION.

These workers had made some seventy alkyl esters of alcohols, previously dealt with, and determined their optical rotation for sodium light, mercury green, and mercury violet in various solvents and for different concentrations. The outstanding feature is that the diagram of Armstrong and Walker for substances exhibiting anomalous rotatory dispersion (this assumes that there are two compounds with different signs and different dispersive powers) holds for the whole seventy esters and thirty carbinols. Dr. Pickard pointed out how this remarkable behaviour could be utilised to determine if a change of

configuration occurs in the Walden inversion. If there is none, the values should fit the characteristic diagram; but if they do not fit, but can be made to fit on the positive side of the diagram, it is evidence that change has occurred.

Dr. Mackenzie, Sir William Ramsay, Dr. Lowry, and the President discussed the points raised.

The next two communications, by Professor H. B. Baker and Mr. L. H. Parker, were read by the latter, and related to the

#### INTERACTION OF SODIUM AMALGAM AND WATER.

By means of the lantern it was shown that there is a great difference between the action of tap-water and water condensed from superheated steam distilled from copper or platinum vessels on sodium amalgam. No relation could be found between this action and electrical conductivity, but it seems to be dependent upon variations in the amount of hydrogen peroxide present in the water as an impurity. A drop of 1 per cent. hydrogen-peroxide solution in 50 c.c. of water increases its activity to sodium amalgam eight times without increasing its electrical conductivity. Some of the most active tap-waters gave positive reactions for hydrogen peroxide with the starch-iodide test, but in no case could confirmation be obtained with titanium oxysulphate. Synthesised water is very active, and treatment with radium bromide increases the activity of water from 3 to 20, both these facts supporting the peroxide theory.

The paper gave rise to an interesting discussion, in which stress was laid on the value of titanium dioxide and sulphuric acid as a test for peroxides.

Dr. G. F. Morrell, a pharmacist, then gave an abstract of the conclusions drawn from experiments by himself and Mr. P. Burge on

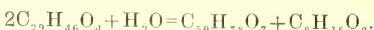
#### THE POLYMERISATION OF CYANAMIDE.

In aqueous solutions the rate of reaction was found to be linear and, contrary to the usual statements, comparatively slow. It is enormously accelerated by traces of catalysts, such as ammonia and sodium hydrate, the acceleration being the greatest with the latter for the mono-sodium salt, there being a slowing down with greater proportions. Pure cyanamide, contrary to text-book statements, is fairly stable, only 6 per cent. polymerising in six months. A 10 per cent. solution of cyanamide lost only a third of its strength during the same period. Light has no measurable effect on polymerisation of cyanamide. In reply to Dr. M. O. Forster, the method used by preparing cyanamide was outlined by Dr. Morrell.

The last paper, by Messrs. F. Tutin and W. J. S. Naunton, read by the former, related to

#### DERIVATIVES OF OLEANOL.

This colourless crystalline substance from olive leaves contains two hydroxyl groups, one of which has phenolic properties. The di-acetyl derivative on heating shows the remarkable behaviour of giving a compound with a higher melting-point, two molecules combining with the elimination of acetic anhydride. Oleanol ( $C_{29}H_{46}O(OH)_2$ ) on oxidation with potassium permanganate in acetic-acid solution yielded oleanone ( $C_{29}H_{44}O_2(OH)_2$ ), acetic acid being apparently split off. Oleanone gives a diacetyl derivative. Oleanone on heating with dilute acetic acid gives all the colour changes characteristic of phytosterols. Apparently two molecules of oleanone take part in this change, as follows :



The smaller side of the equation had not been thoroughly investigated, and may be  $2C_8H_8O$ . Oxidation of oleanone with chromic acid gave a substance ( $C_{29}H_{41}O_3.OH$ ) melting at  $275^\circ C$ . On treatment with alcoholic potash an isomer melting at  $315^\circ$  was obtained. These gave mono-acetyl derivatives. Oleanol on oxidation with chromic acid gave the same substance and at least three carboxylic acids, which as yet it has not been possible to identify.

DRUGS valued at 442/- were imported into Muscat (the principal port of the Sultanate of Oman) during 1912-13, as compared with 679/- during 1911-12 and 628/- in 1910-11. India supplied 233/-, and the United Kingdom 149/-.

## Dispensing Notes.

#### A Quinine and Iron Mixture.

SIR.—What do you think of the following script, and how should it be dispensed (if it is possible)?

Ferri et quin. cit.	...	...	...	gr. x.
Urotropin.	...	...	...	gr. xv.
Liq. bismuth. et ammon. cit.	...	...	...	5ij.
Spt. chlorof.	...	...	...	xxv.
Aq. menth. pip. ad	...	...	...	5ss.—M.

Mitte 5vjij.

I rung up doctor, and we decided to give in two solutions—viz.:

- (1) Ferri quin. cit. and spt. chlorof. in one.
- (2) Liq. bismuthi, urotropin., and aq. m. pip. in the other.

Puzzled (70/27).

[Place the iron and quinine citrate in a mortar, and add to it, with vigorous trituration, the other components of the mixture previously mixed together. This method produces a mixture containing the precipitate in a form which shakés up well enough to enable the patient to get uniform dosage. The mixture, however, is not nice-looking, and after a time some of the precipitate adheres to the top and bottom of the bottle, resulting in loss of active material. It is well, therefore, to use a suspending agent. Triturate the iron and quinine citrate with 20 grains of powdered tragacanth, and rub down with the spirit of chloroform, adding the mixture of the other constituents in the manner above indicated. Result, a very nice mixture indeed. The two-bottle method is somewhat unhandy.]

#### A Strontium Mixture.

SIR.—Would you kindly inform me through the medium of the *C. & D.* if it is possible to dispense the following prescription without precipitate?

Potass. bromidi,				
Sodii bromidi,				
Ammon. bromidi,				
Strontii bromidi	...	...	aa.	5iv.
Potass. bicarb.	...	...	...	5vj.
Liq. arsenicals	...	...	...	5j.
Aq. ad	...	...	...	5x.

I have tried it in several ways, but a precipitate always falls down.—*G. E.* (20/59).

[Precipitation of strontium carbonate is inevitable in this mixture. It shakés up easily, however, and is light enough to remain in suspension sufficiently long to permit of equal distribution while a dose is being poured out. The reaction between the strontium bromide and potassium bicarbonate involves the production of carbonic-acid gas, and it is well to make sure that the reaction is completed before sending out the mixture. The solution of the salts in the water produces a mild freezing mixture, which retards the reaction, and its results may easily be overlooked, because it is only when the mixture is returning to the normal temperature that the full vigour of the reaction develops and the gas escapes.]

#### Eye-drops.

*Oxonian* (19/69) wants to know how the following should be dispensed:

Ammon. chlor.	...	...	...	gr. v.
Sulphur præcip.	...	...	...	gr. x.
Spt. camph.	...	...	...	5j.
Aq. ad	...	...	...	5ij.

Ft. guite.

Three or four drops twice daily into the eyes.

[That this compound must have a "Shake the bottle" label does not seem open to doubt, but as it stands, even an adherence to that injunction would not prove of much service. The sulphur floats so erratically that anything approaching an even distribution of it in use is quite unattainable. The prescriber's ideas are apparently good enough, but he is at sea as to their fulfilment. Camphor-water is frequently used in eye-lotions, and ammonium chloride occasionally. Sulphur we have not previously met in this connection. We see no objection, however, to precipitated sulphur for such use. In the present case just sufficient quince mucilage, which is often used in eye-lotions, or mucilage of tragacanth, to ensure uniformity in the quantity of sulphur applied, makes the "drops" quite workable. About 5vj. of freshly made mucilage of tragacanth serves the purpose, and is a neutral preparation. The spirit of camphor can be used, instead of the rectified spirit ordered in the B.P., in making the mucilage, and steady trituration should be employed while the water is being added, so as to ensure the excess of camphor being in a state of fine division.]

## A Seasonable Show.

By "Reaper."

**D**O chemists use their windows to advantage? In very many cases the answer is in the negative, for many of our craft are conservative in this respect and do not exert their ingenuity in utilising their windows for increasing business. The shop-window is, to the outsider, like a mirror reflecting the business methods, or otherwise, of the proprietor. It is essential, therefore, that the window be scrupulously clean, bright, and attractive. The attractiveness depends largely on the material for display, and the following suggestions, if properly carried out, will produce a pleasing effect and increase sales.

### COD-LIVER OIL EMULSION.

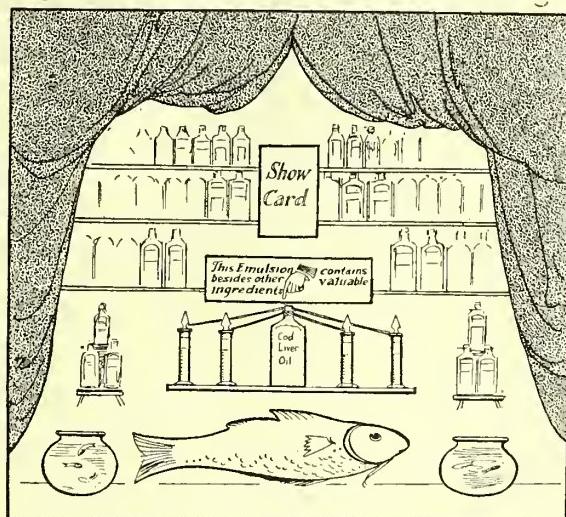
The materials required are inexpensive, and the idea can be worked on a small or large scale, according to the size of the window.

1. Procure a model of a fish. The fancy cakes done up by many confectioners in the form of a good-sized fish suit the purpose admirably.
2. Procure, if you have none, two glass globes with a couple of gold fish in each.
3. Four cylindrical show-bottles; or, for a small window, four large test-tubes.

These, with suitable cards and a good stock of your cod-liver oil emulsion, may be used very effectively as follows:

Place the large fish in the very centre in the bottom of the window, and on it put a card worded:

"MODEL OF COD FROM WHICH NORWEGIAN COD-LIVER OIL IS OBTAINED."



At each side, where they can easily be got at to renew the water, place the globes with the gold fish. The novelty of seeing gold fish in a chemist's window has a magnetic influence on the passer-by, who is then induced to follow the scheme in the window. A few bottles of emulsion should be judiciously arranged, and behind this and a little higher place in the centre a Winchester quart of clear cod-liver oil, with a card overhanging worded thus:

THIS EMULSION CONTAINS BESIDES OTHER VALUABLE INGREDIENTS.

The index finger points to the cod-liver oil and cylinders, or test-tubes, on each side, a coloured ribbon connecting the five, as shown in the sketch. The cod-liver oil should be labelled, or, better, ticketed, and the four cylinders likewise, thus:

Pepsin Digestive Principle	Sodium Hypophosphate Valuable Tonic	Cod Liver Oil Fattening & Strengthening Agent	Lime Hypophosphate Bone Builder	Flavouring Agents Pleasant to the Palate
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Then tastefully arrange your shelves with the various sizes of your proprietary, and put price-tickets here and there; also in the centre of the shelves place a card worded thus:

OUR EMULSION  
NOURISHES, TONES UP, AND INVIGORATES  
THE CONSTITUTION.  
IS NOT NAUSEOUS.  
DOES NOT UPSET THE STOMACH.

Where expense has not to be too much considered, a dark heliotrope muslin curtain enhances the effect.

## PRESCRIPTION PROBLEM.

THE exercise set in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, October 25, index folio 620, brought us a large number of postcards. The correct reading of the prescription is as follows:

Mist sod sal 3vij  
T quin amm 3iv  
V. ipec 3ij

3ss q. q. h. [quartâ quaque horâ]

The chief difficulty was in the third ingredient, but not many of the competitors went wrong, Vinum ipecacuanha being read by the great majority. Nineteen postcards gave a transcription correct in every detail. The awards are therefore made according to the time of posting, the following being the result:

### London District.

Mr. G. A. H. Shelley, R. H. Cooper & Co., 20 Royal Exchange, London, E.C.

### English Provinces.

Mr. J. Leach, Palmer & Son, Ramsey, Hunts.

Mr. C. Kemsey-Bourne, The Pharmacy, West Bromwich.

### Scotland and Ireland.

Mr. A. Russell, 2 Canomills, Edinburgh.

To each we shall award "The Art of Dispensing" or two of our Dictionaries.

The following prescription forms the subject of the next competition. Postcards should be posted not later than December 6. Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the Editor, and in case of close competition the time of posting will be taken into account:

Form M.B. 13

### LONDON INSURANCE COMMITTEE.

Name of Insured Patient

m<sup>o</sup>-Martin

to the Chemist for submission to the Committee.	s	d.	R.
			Ly Chm 3f G Cll JH

**THEFT OF CAPSULES.**—Messrs. Bartlet Hooper & Co., 56 Great Dover Street, London, S.E., inform us that about 10*l.* worth of sandalwood-oil capsules manufactured by them were stolen from a truck outside of Sutton & Co.'s warehouse in Golden Lane, E.C., on Friday night, November 21. If, therefore, any s.w.o. capsules should be offered to retailers at bargain prices, Messrs. B. Hooper & Co. would like to have particulars.

**A SYPHON LABEL.**—“Punch” this week makes good fun out of this label on a syphon of soda-water:

This Syphon is the Property of James Woddle, The Arcade Grocery, which if not returned in reasonable time will be charged 2*s.* 6*d.* There follows a series of imaginary letters to the grocer, pointing out the faulty grammatical construction of the sentence, and the replies of the grocer, who could not see the point, and whose letters always end “Soliciting a continuance of your esteemed favours.”

## TRADE-MARKS.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications must be stated on Form T.M. No. 7 (obtainable at Money Order Offices for £1) and lodged with Mr. W. Temple Franks, Comptroller-General, Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned.

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are desired, for a list of which, with particulars as to registration, see "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," p. 444.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," November 12, 1913.)

- "ARCTICANUS"; for food-preservatives (2 and 42). By The Agricultural Chemical Co., 52 Carlton Road, Southampton. 353,832/3.
- "URANIA"; for insect-destroyers (2). By Chemische Fabrik Schweinfurt G.m.b.H., 126<sup>2</sup> Schwciinfurterstrasse, Schweinfurt. 354,221.
- "FRENLER"; for chemicals (2). By G. Milledge, 12 Robe Street, St. Kilda, Melbourne. 355,054.
- "DISSOIDS"; for chemicals (2). By J. J. Masters & Andren, Ltd., 101 Great Tower Street, London, E.C. 355,374.
- Device of two children in field of barley; for medicinal chemicals (3) and for goods (42). By Chem. Fabrik Gebr. Patermann, Potsdamerstrasse, Teltow-Berlin. 351,916/7.
- "TRIPEP"; for a medicine (3). By The Standard Tablet and Pill Co., Ltd., Hove. 353,045.
- "LAXATIVE BROM QUININE" and facsimile signature "E. W. GROVE"; for a laxative quinine preparation (3). By E. W. Grove, 2628 Pine Street, St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A. 353,492.
- Label device with word "ANTEEMOIDS"; for pills (3). By T. R. Horrocks, 127 Eastbourne Road, Birkdale, Southport. 354,037.
- "HEXANATRINE"; for a medicine (3). By Corbyn, Stacey & Co., Ltd., 673 Commercial Road, London, E. 354,877.
- "SIONON"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By The Bayer Co., Ltd., 20 Booth Street, Manchester. 355,471.
- Label devices including words "TABLOID TEA," for tea (42); "OZOZO" for perfumery, etc. (48). By Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C. 355,331/2, 355,197.
- "KIWI," "BOLT," "SPANNER," "JACANA," and "PLOVER," with pictures of same; for goods (47 and 48). By Hazlehurst & Sons, Ltd., 17 Highfield Street, Liverpool. 354,860/1, 355,018/9, 355,026/7, 355,144/5, 355,148/9.
- Label device with facsimile signature "M. HEINISCH"; for all goods (48). By M. Heinisch-G.m.b.H., 1 Tiergartenstrasse, Strassburg. 347,408.
- "VINOLIA WHITE CAP," with picture of sea; for perfumery, etc. (48). By Vinolia Co., Ltd., 37 and 38 Upper Thames Street, London, E.C. 349,648.
- Label device including words "ORIENTAL CREAM OR MAGICAL BEAUTIFER" ("Oriental" disclaimed); for a skin preparation (48). By Fred. T. Hopkins & Son, 37 Great Jones Street, New York, U.S.A. 352,694.
- "GEYSIR," with picture of natural geyser; for perfumery, etc. (48). By Hodgson & Simpson, Ltd., 17 Highfield Street, Liverpool. 353,742.
- "OPSO"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By Officina Parmense Sostanz Odorose, Via Trento, Parma, Italy. 354,801.
- "DENSO"; for dentifrices, etc. (48). By Reade Bros. & Co., Ltd., Cleveland Road, Wolverhampton. 355,061.
- "SMART SET"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By Breidenbach & Co., 48 Greek Street, Soho Square, London, W. 355,264.
- "ERINOID"; for preparations and goods made of Irish casein (50). By Syrolit, Ltd., 58 Coleman Street, London, E.C. 352,506.
- Comb-shaped device with words "BALL POINTS" ("Ball Points" disclaimed); for hair-combs (50). By H. O. Traun, 59 Meyerstrasse, Hamburg. 354,231.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," November 19, 1913.)

- Device with word "LAVASOL"; for disinfectant soaps (2) and for medicated soaps (3). By Sapon, Ltd., 24 King William Street, London, E.C. 354,664/5.
- "ETHNA"; for vermin-destroyers (2). By Clydesdale Chemical Co., 72 Great Clyde Street, Glasgow. 355,232.
- Circular device with word "MAXIMUM" and monogram "U. D. Co." ("Maximum" disclaimed); for indiarubber goods (40). By United Drug Co., 114 Oldhall Street, Liverpool. 355,304.

- "NECTAR"; for soap (48). By Bird & Son, Ltd., Glamorgan Works, East Moors, Cardiff. 354,426.
- "OPHIE"; for combs and brushes (50). By Frischer & Co., 22 Ropemaker Street, London, E.C. 355,449.
- "PENDIX" for tooth-brushes (50). By E. II. Homan, 17 Gracechurch Street, London. 355,560.

## NEW BOOKS.

Any of these books printed in the United Kingdom can be supplied, at the published price, to "C. & D." subscribers on application (with remittance) to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. These notes do not exclude subsequent reviews.

Gubb, Dr. A. S. *La Flore Algérienne, Naturelle et Acquise.* 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ ×5 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 275. 7.50f. (A. Jourdan, Algiers, and Ballière, Tindall & Cox, London.) [This work is handsomely got up, and consists of a series of fine photographs of about two hundred and fifty Algerian plants printed on art-paper and described in non-botanical French. Where possible, names are given in Arabic, Berber, and half a dozen European languages, a useful feature indicating much patience and diligence. In order to expedite identification, the plants are classified according to the shape of the leaves. By looking down the list under the diagram approximating to a characteristic leaf-form, it should not be difficult to pick out the plant in hand, and reference to the fuller description and photograph further should settle the matter. The author is an English medical practitioner, who has produced an attractive volume in a language not his own, with characteristic French lucidity.]

King, F. T. *Feeding and Care of Baby.* 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ×5 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 162. Illustrated. 1s. net. (Macmillan.) [This book, which is issued by the Society for the Health of Women and Children, deals in detail with the feeding and hygiene of infants in a manner calculated to excite most interest in the mother's mind. Incidentally "patent" foods and the "dummy" come in for strong condemnation.]

Roscoe, H. E., and Sehorlemmer, C. *Treatise on Chemistry.* Vol. II.—The Metals. Fifth edit. 9×5 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 1470. 30s. net. (Macmillan.) [This standard work in its expansion reflects the growth and tremendous range of chemical science. It deals in equally lucid manner with subjects ranging from the manufacture of soda and glass to radioactive changes. Its thorough revision is illustrated by the inclusion of the zinc method of recovering chlorine from calcium chloride in the ammonia-soda process, and C. T. R. Wilson's photograph of a complete x-ray from radium emanation. The treatise will retain its premier place as the standard reference work on the subject it covers, and we hope to deal with it more fully at a later date.]

Tilden, Sir William A., F.R.S., D.Sc., etc. *The Progress of Scientific Chemistry in Our Own Times, with Biographical Notices.* 2nd edit. 8vo. Pp. xii+366. 7s. 6d. net. (Longmans.) [The idea of this book is to provide a clear statement of the successive steps which have led to the system of theory generally accepted by chemists at the present day, and the author has brought the matter up to date. After an introductory chapter, which is historical and biographical, the following subjects are dealt with in succession: Matter and Energy; Chemical Elements; Atomic Weights; Valency and Atomic Linking; Synthetical Chemistry; Stereo-chemistry; Electricity and Chemical Affinity; Liquefaction of Gases; Radio-activity; Summary. Each chapter concludes with biographical notes on the chemists who are mentioned therein, and a table of Important Events and indices of Persons and Subjects conclude the volume.]

"THE SQUARE CHRONICLE."—No. 4 of this organ of the School of Pharmacy Past Students' Association has just been published. It is edited by Mr. W. H. Allen, who does it well, nothing really austere or absolutely silly being admitted to the pages, yet enough humour and quaintness to make it go. One of the most interesting articles in the present issue is a description of an Old Time Apprenticeship by Mr. J. Whitfeld; but we see no reason why the whole contents should not be mentioned, and here they are: Editorial; The Secretary's Page (H. Martin); Another Plain Tale from the Hills (F. G. Hines); Entre Nous; School Notes (W. R. Pratt); Our Botanical Excursion (Anon); An Old Time Apprenticeship (J. Whitfeld); A Pharmaceutical Film (W. H. Allen); The Philosophy of Omar Secundus (J. H. R.); B.P. Ballads, No. 2 (W. H. A.); The Second Annual Concert; "Re The Major" (C. T. Allen).

## ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

### Brevities.

Blackburn Magistrates on Friday, November 21, postponed their judgment in the pepper case.

Messrs. W. H. Clubb, Ltd., are making a special "bonus sale" at their Liverpool branches at present.

Mr. Chas. Cunliffe, 111b Eastbank Street, Southport, has applied to the Town Council for a poison-licence.

Mr. George Hare, one of the earliest manufacturers of photographic cameras in this country, died this week at Bromley, Kent.

The Herts County Council on November 20 issued notice of their intention to make an order for Bushey chemists to close on Wednesdays at 1 P.M.

The Midland Pharmaceutical Association has issued a circular to its members inviting opinions as to the best day for evening meetings, whether Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.

The London Chamber of Commerce have taken the house No. 97 Cannon Street, E.C., as an extension to their present premises in Oxford Court, which is just behind the building referred to.

Fire destroyed the contents of a warehouse attached to the pharmacy of Mr. T. Cook, chemist and druggist, 10 Sincil Street, Lincoln, on November 21. The damage is covered by insurance.

Messrs. H. S. Martin, Ltd., chemists, East Grinstead, have been awarded a silver medal and diploma for brewed ginger-beer, at the recent Brewers' Exhibition held at the Agricultural Hall, London.

Some straw caught fire in the cellar of the pharmacy of Mr. Rowland Dixon, Ph.C., 942 Eccleshall Road, Sheffield, on November 21. The flames were quickly extinguished and only slight damage was done.

The new branch of Boots Cash Chemists, Ltd., at the corner of Bull Street, Birmingham, was recently opened. The opening show was on a most elaborate scale and very effective, although only in part pharmaceutical.

The Colwyn Bay Council on November 18 considered a letter from the Home Office recommending that a separate order be made as regards the weekly half-holiday for chemists. The Clerk was directed to prepare copies of the amended order.

The Judge at the Liverpool County Court on November 25, in the case Bew's Remedy Co. v. L. V. Angel, chemist, 241 Great Homer Street, awarded the defendant 5s. costs, and ordered the goods to be returned, holding that they were sent on sale or return.

At the installation meeting of Farringdon Without Masonic Lodge, in the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, London, on November 24, Mr. W. Bonser Hayward was invested as Asst. C. Std. A distinguished company afterwards dined together, W.M. Geo. Lavington, C.C., presiding.

On the occasion of the funeral of the late Mr. F. U. Stamp, Ph.C., at Golders Green Crematorium on November 21, most of the business premises in High Street, Hampstead, and the neighbourhood exhibited mourning shutters as a tribute of the esteem in which Mr. Stamp was held.

Master Rathbone Robinson, son of Mr. Raymond Robinson, chemist and druggist, 44 High Street, Sittingbourne, was experimenting with some explosives on November 20, when the contents of the mortar exploded. He was removed to Rochester Hospital, where it was found necessary to amputate a portion of his left hand.

At the Maidstone shopping festival last week eight windows were entered in the chemists' class reserved for chemists and druggists. The first and third prizes were awarded to Corfe & Sons, Gabriel's Hill, and the second to the West Kent Drug Stores, of Middle Row. The display of Payne's Drug Stores, Week Street, was highly commended, and that of Rowcroft & Co., Week Street, commended.

### Dispensers' Appointments.

Mr. E. Ellis has been appointed as dispenser at the Ashton-under-Lyne Union Workhouse.

Mr. C. W. Hook has been appointed as dispenser and storekeeper at the West Ham Union Workhouse.

### Contracts.

Orsett Guardians.—Mr. T. Johns, chemist, Tilbury Dock, for the dispensing of prescriptions, at 9d. per bottle of sixteen doses or under.

London County Council.—For annual supplies, Adcocks, Jeyses' Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd. (estimated value £12*l.*), Killgerm Co., Ltd., Lang & Sons, Ltd., and the Standardised Disinfectants Co., Ltd., for disinfectants.

### Income-tax Allowances.

A deputation from the Associated Chambers of Commerce waited upon the Commissioners of Inland Revenue on November 25 to make representations on the subject of income-tax allowances. The primary points for allowance were as follows :

Depreciation on building and other structures.

Depreciation on wasting assets, shaft sinking, and developments, furniture, fixtures and fittings.

Expenses of removal and rearrangement of plant and machinery.

Extra allowance for depreciation of machinery run both day and night.

A definite effort by the Revenue authorities to regularise the rates of depreciation allowed in different trades.

The conference lasted nearly two and a half hours, and at the close Mr. Dunwoody, Secretary of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, stated that the Board had met the deputation in a generous spirit, and had promised to give earnest consideration to their suggestions. Sir Matthew Nathan's reply will be published.

### B.M.A. Standing Therapeutic Sub-Committee.

The Science Committee of the British Medical Association has appointed a standing Therapeutic Sub-Committee with the following instructions :

(i) To promote, supervise, or direct research in pharmacology and therapeutics, and to carry out such other duties as the Science Committee may decide.

(ii) To prepare a statement as to the therapeutic value of drugs in use, giving an indication as to those which have become obsolete.

(iii) To consider the subject of proprietary preparations and the relation of the British Medical Association to them. The Committee consists of the Chairman (*ex officio*), Professor A. R. Cushny, F.R.S., Professor W. E. Dixon, F.R.S., Professor C. R. Marshall, M.D., Professor R. Stockman, and Professor R. B. Wild, with power to co-opt additional members subject to the approval of the Science Committee.

### The Supply of Radium.

At the meeting of the British Radium Corporation in London on November 25, Sir William Ramsay said that with regard to the application of radium to medical purposes there are other substances in the Trenwith ore, and, indeed, in all radium ores, which have not so far been exploited from the therapeutic point of view. They are polonium, ionium, and actinium, at present chemical curiosities, but which have not been extracted in any great quantity, though there is no very great difficulty in extracting them. He was in hopes, however, that polonium, which is perhaps most easily produced, might prove to have therapeutic qualities which would enable them to treat diseases which up to that point have not been treated. Polonium is somewhat analogous to selenium, tellurium, and also to bismuth, the therapeutic qualities of which have been tested. Those three elements remain in the system for some length of time, and are then excreted, but they have practically no therapeutic qualities. Polonium differs from them entirely in that it gives off alpha-rays just the same as radium, and he could not help believing that the potency of radium for therapeutic purposes depends upon the alpha-rays. Radium cannot be administered as a medicine to human beings. It is too expensive and probably too dangerous, as he did not believe it would be easily eliminated from the system. But the three substances he had mentioned are eliminated in about three months, and his impression

is that polonium might produce its effect for about that time and then be eliminated. It is, of course, speculative, but he thought that the Corporation should put some polonium on the market, so that experiments might be made first on animals and then on men. Ioniun and actinium might possibly replace radium for the uses for which it is at the moment employed. "The Times" reports that Professor R. Sommer has worked out a new process by which comparatively large quantities of ore containing very minute amounts of radium can be profitably extracted. The inventor believes that his method will be a means of producing a large and sufficient supply of radium.

#### Sheffield Notes.

Messrs. Exell Bros. have made extensive alterations to their premises in order to meet the increased business created by Insurance dispensing.

Mr. James Walton, representative of Messrs. Newton, Chambers & Co., Ltd., has been succeeded by Mr. Machen. Mr. Walton has quite recovered from his recent serious illness.

Mr. E. A. Barker has resigned his position as district representative of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. He has been succeeded by Mr. Turner, who intends to make Sheffield his headquarters.

Dr. E. F. Skinner reports to the Education Committee that the average time of cure for ringworm in children treated with x-rays is 27.1 days, against about eight months with ointment. The Committee have decided to retain his services until March 31, 1914.

#### Agitation against Wholesalers.

A meeting of several hundred employés of wholesale druggists was held at the Printers' Hall, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E., on Thursday evening, November 20, under the auspices of the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks, the Secretary of which (Mr. Arthur J. Gillian) presided. The majority of the audience was composed of young men, and they were soon roused to enthusiasm by the first speaker (Mr. P. C. Hoffman, the London organiser), who said that something is radically wrong in the drug-trade, and they were there to remedy it. He was followed by a speaker who intimated that he had been twenty-seven years in the drug-trade. He outlined the proposals—viz., that the warehouse workers should join the Amalgamated Union, forming a distinct Drug Branch, so that it might be possible to have expert advice on the peculiar conditions and grievances of the drug-trade. He asked those present to sign proposal forms, which were of the usual friendly-society type, promising that in a year after men joined the Union bottle-washers, packers, porters, wet and dry counter hands, and lab. hands would demand a minimum wage of 30s. per week for unmarried and 35s. for married men. The speaker also denounced the methods by which he alleged that drug-contracts are obtained by a certain firm—low wages being the cause which he particularly condemned. He said the Union would endeavour to make it compulsory that trade-union rate of wages should be paid by firms obtaining public drug-contracts. Another proposal would be the institution of "Black lists," upon which firms paying less than the Union rate of wages would be placed. Lists of such firms' customers would be obtained and customers would be asked not to buy from them. If necessary the Union would also endeavour to stop prescriptions going to any chemist who persisted in buying from black-listed wholesalers. Unpaid overtime was also dealt with. Another speaker called attention to advertisements in the *C. & D.* Supplement for experienced assistants at 20s. and 25s. per week. It had been intimated earlier in the evening that there were four individuals in the audience who were there for "no good." They were advised to leave the hall at once, or else they would be thrown out. Violence, however, was deprecated by another speaker, who hoped what they heard would do them good, and it was just as well their employers should know what was being done. It was ultimately resolved "that a druggists' sundriesman branch of the National Amalgamated Union be formed."

#### "Doctor."

The twenty-ninth annual meeting of Fellows and members of the Royal College of Surgeons was held last week. Mr. G. H. Makins, C.B., presided, and in outlining the report of the Council called attention to the use of the "courtesy title of doctor" by licentiates of the Royal College of Physicians and the members of the Royal College of Surgeons. The report stated that the Royal College of Physicians has withdrawn the words in one of its by-laws forbidding licentiates to assume the title of "Doctor" unless they hold the degree of M.D. The College of Physicians has thus adopted the same attitude as the College of Surgeons.

#### From Various Courts.

At Ludlow last week, Mary Ann Jacks, married, was sentenced to seven days' hard labour for stealing perfume value 5s. 6d., from the pharmacy of Mr. W. J. Brown, Ph.C., 49 Bull Ring, Ludlow, on November 8.

At Pontypridd Police Court on November 22, M. Morgan (46), labourer, was remanded on a charge of burglary at the premises of Mr. D. Arnott, Ph.C., 35A Taft Street, Pontypridd, and with stealing therefrom the sum of 1*l.* 1*s.*

At the Central Criminal Court last week, Richard Bradley (24), fitter's mate, was acquitted of a charge of feloniously receiving a cheque which had been stolen from Messrs. Manners & Hopkinson, wholesale druggists, 82 Southwark Bridge Road, London, S.E.

Admitting desertion, Albert John Thomas Bancroft, chemist, St. Chad's Road, Derby, was ordered by the Derby Magistrates, on November 20, to pay 1*l.* per week towards the maintenance of his wife, who was also given the custody of the only child of the marriage, a boy of five. Each party alleged that the other was intemperate, and the wife also complained of ill-usage. Defendant said complainant had done her best to ruin his business, his takings having decreased from 10*l.* or 11*l.* per week to about 5*l.*

At Walsall on November 19, Harriet Edwards (29) was charged with obtaining a shilling by false pretences from Kate Walker, the wife of a currier. Mrs. Walker, in her evidence, said that defendant called at her house on November 1, stating that she represented the Edwards' Harlene Co. of London, and that she could sell her for a shilling a large bottle of Harlene costing half-a-crown at a chemist's shop. She bought a bottle of the preparation, also two powders. On opening the bottle she was doubtful as to whether the contents were genuine, and on tasting it came to the conclusion that it consisted of cold tea. The accused was remanded until November 21, when her husband, William Edwards (28), described as a polisher, was charged with three similar offences. It was stated that the shampoo-powders appeared to be nothing more than bleaching-powder. Mr. W. J. Greenward, assistant manager of the Edwards' Harlene Co., stated that the prisoners did not represent his company and had no authority to sell their preparations. The stuff in the bottles produced was not Harlene. Accused pleaded "Not guilty," and pointed out that the bottle was labelled "Macassa oil," and anyone who bought it for Harlene must be silly. The two defendants were each fined 40*s.* and costs, or in default to undergo a month's imprisonment with hard labour. Two further charges were withdrawn.

**ALL-NIGHT PHARMACY.**—J. W. Douglas, Ltd., chemists, 213 Newington Butts, London, have issued a hand-bill stating that they are willing to give help and attendance during the night as well as the day, and that they have arranged also for a qualified dispenser to take the place of their usual manager during the weekly half-holiday on Thursdays.

**INTER-PHARMACY FOOTBALL LEAGUE.**—The Westminster College and London College teams met at Boston Farm on November 15. The match, though well contested, was somewhat one-sided; the "Cyanides," pressing hard, succeeded in scoring five goals in the first half and four in the second, the result thus being: London, 9; Westminster, 0. On November 22 the "Cyanides" played the South London team, and after an exciting game won by three goals to one.

## IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

### Brevities.

Mr. G. R. Calvert, Ph.C., Ballyclare, has completed extensive alterations to his pharmacy, the interior being remodelled and brought up to date.

Mr. William E. Stewart, Ph.C., who has for several years been manager of Messrs. McCullagh & Co.'s pharmaceutical establishment in Londonderry, has obtained a position at Ladysmith, South Africa.

At Glentiers (Donegal) Board of Guardians on November 22 a letter was read from Messrs. R. Sumner & Co., Ltd., Liverpool, medicine contractors to the Union, expressing surprise at the tone of the Guardians' recent letter to them in reply to their explanation as to a drug unfavourably reported on by the analyst.

At a meeting of Lurgan Urban Council last week Mr. A. W. Mann, Ph.C., made a complaint regarding the fire brigade. He said he had experienced considerable difficulty in arousing the brigade superintendent on the morning of November 17 when a fire had broken out underneath his premises. The complaint was referred to the Fire Brigade Committee.

### Deaths from Poisoning.

The Registrar-General of Ireland has issued a supplement to his forty-seventh report, in which are given decennial summaries of the returns of marriages, births, deaths, and causes of death in Ireland for the years 1901 to 1910. The tables include one showing the deaths from poisonings during that period. These were 652, of which 516 were the result of accident, 131 were suicides, and five homicides. The poisonings include deaths from asphyxiation by gases, industrial lead-poisonings, alcohol, chloroform anaesthesia, ptomaines, poisonous fungi, and matches, leaving an exceptionally small residue of deaths from those poisons which are dealt in by those who are registered under the Pharmacy Acts.

### Dental Society of Ireland.

In our report last week of the inaugural meeting of this Society we omitted to add the name of Mr. David S. Bennet, Ph.C., Cahirciveen, as Hon. Secretary for the South of Ireland. Mr. Bennet was born in Edinburgh, and was apprenticed with McCullagh & Co. of that city, acquiring experience subsequently with Frazer & Green, Glasgow; Mr. W. F. Wells, Dublin; and the Cork Chemical and Drug Co. He opened his present business in 1899. Mr. James D. Carse, 233 Woodstock Road, Belfast, the Hon. Secretary of the Society, calls our attention to the fact that we designated Mr. T. Mitchell a registered druggist, whereas he has this year acquired the licence of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. Mr. Carse, who was formerly with J. & J. Haslett, Belfast, was employed in the capacity of analytical chemist and was engaged some years ago on the winning side in an interesting legal case in which analytical results figured largely. It should be noted that, like the Ulster Drug Association, of which Mr. Carse was a founder, the Dental Society of Ireland intends to include in its membership all pharmaceutical chemists, chemists and druggists, and registered druggists who have dental interests that may now or in the future need defending.

## SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

### Brevities.

Mr. Geo. Campbell, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of Messrs. Newall & Co., Dalbeattie. Mr. Campbell was apprenticed with Mr. Thomas Edmondson, pharmacist, Penrith.

The Dundee branch of Boots Cash Chemists, Ltd., in Reform Street, was opened on Friday, November 14, without any advertisement or special show. One of the

two show windows is devoted to an exhibition of diaries and other stationery, and the second window is entirely filled with the company's proprietary articles.

Mr. Charles Young, whose death is reported elsewhere in this issue, was forty years ago one of the best known chemists in Dundee, and had an extensive counter practice; in fact, he was known to the working people of his district as "Doctor," and was the last remaining of the prescribing druggists who flourished when all the doctors of the town did their own dispensing. Mr. Young had for many years been living in retirement, and the present generation of young chemists scarcely knew him.

### Edinburgh.

At Chancelot Park, on November 19, Leith Shop Assistants F.C. defeated Pharmacy United by four goals to one.

Mr. John Lindsay, one of Edinburgh's most noted botanists, has just died. He was about seventy years of age, and had been six years with Messrs. William Blackwood & Sons, the publishers.

A chemist and druggist "of the old days" has received a prize from the "Weekly Scotsman" for a letter describing why he became a co-operator. His memory goes back to a time when he sold Bland's pills at 6d. per doz. and Pears' soap at 6d. per tablet; but, he adds, when the store began to sell the pills at 6d. per gross, and perform other philanthropic feats of a similar nature, he too decided to purchase food and clothing for his own use at presumably trifling prices.

### Glasgow and the West.

Messrs. Scott & McQueen, Phoenix Chemical Works, Pollokshaws, are applying for an agri-horticultural poisons-liscence.

Panel chemists are highly pleased with the prospective increase in the dispensing charges as intimated to them by Mr. Rutherford Hill.

Mr. Peter Irvine, Ph.C., has disposed of his Clarkston business to Mr. A. Twedley, chemist and druggist, who qualified from the Glasgow School of Pharmacy, and has for some years managed the Giffnock branch of Mr. D. Moir, chemist, Shawlands Cross.

Firms adopting the word competitions in future will find it to their advantage, as also to their customers', to advise the trade well in advance. Oatine preparations were not to be had in Glasgow many days before the competition closed, and consequently much money was lost to makers and chemists alike.

A further evidence of the change in the windows of Glasgow chemists, as reported in last week's *C. & D.*, are the alterations at present going on in the Charing Cross pharmacy of Messrs. John Laurence & Son, a very old-established business. The windows are being greatly improved and shelled with plate glass.

The estate of Paterson & Stewart (William Stewart, trading as), chemists and druggists, King Street, Castle Douglas, shows liabilities amounting to 808*l.* and assets valued at 399*l.*, leaving a deficiency of 408*l.*, and showing an apparent dividend of 9*s. 10d.* in the pound, subject to the expenses of realisation, which is proceeding.

**THE IMPORTS OF OPIUM** into Formosa during 1912 amounted to 238,979 lb., against 177,709 lb. in 1911 and 372,413 lb. in 1910. The increase in value last year was 123,870*l.*, this being due, it is said, to an anticipated increase in price. India sent 157,841 lb., Persia 118,611 lb., and Turkey in Asia 12,527 lb. Opium is a monopoly in Formosa, and a handsome revenue is derived therefrom by the Japanese Government, who are signatories to the International Opium Convention.

**WALDIE MEMORIAL TABLET.**—A brass memorial tablet in commemoration of the late Mr. David Waldie, of Calcutta, was unveiled in the rooms of the Asiatic Society of Bengal at its monthly meeting in Calcutta on November 5. The occasion was the hundredth anniversary of the birth of David Waldie, and in paying a tribute to his memory Mr. David Hooper outlined the principal facts of his career and his association with the discoverer of chloroform, full particulars about which were given in our issue of December 21, 1912 (index folio 919).

## FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

A CENTENARY.—It is difficult to realise that November 30 is the centenary of the birth of Adolphe Chatin. Many French pharmacists still in business studied at the Paris School under his directorship; many still younger men can remember the dignified old man of a somewhat Gladstonian appearance, who attended the meetings of the Academy of Sciences, or took the tram at St. Lazare for his suburban residence. He was a peasant's son, and at seventeen went to work in a pharmacy at St. Marcellin (Isère), where the proprietor (M. Lombard), struck with his intelligence, recommended him to a Parisian colleague, M. Briant, who encouraged and aided Chatin to complete his education. Chatin took his B.A. at nineteen, secured the first prize as hospital house-pharmacist and six gold medals at the School, qualified in 1840, and became head pharmacist at Beaujon Hospital. In 1848 Chatin was Professor of Botany at the School. Six years later he, with a little group of fellow-workers, founded the Société Botanique de France. While Director of the Paris School of Pharmacy, he succeeded in persuading the Ministry to remove and rebuild the dilapidated School of Pharmacy, but he was unpopular with the students and resigned. He retired at eighty-five to Essarts-le-Roi, where he died in January 1901.

### Paris Society of Pharmacy.

At the November meeting the President (M. Charles Moureu) referred to his presence at the jubilee of M. Sabatier at Toulouse. The Academy of Sciences has decided, he mentioned, that the speeches made then by M. Poincaré and himself (Professor Moureu) should be printed at the Academy's expense. He had already received a copy, which he now presented to the Society. M. Moureu also mentioned that last month he travelled to Madrid to take part in the Congress of Hydrology and Climatology. He delivered two lectures in the Spanish capital on the rarer gases found in mineral waters. At a banquet given by the Madrid Faculty of Pharmacy, Senator José Rodriguez Caracido, Professor of Biological Chemistry at the Faculty, made a speech, in which he alluded in very complimentary terms both to the Paris Superior School of Pharmacy and to the Society of Pharmacy. Professor Bourquelot moved a vote of thanks to M. Moureu for the brilliant manner in which he had represented the Society, which was adopted *nem. con.* M. Herissey presented, in the names of MM. Bourquelot and Coirre, as well as his own, a communication regarding the "Biochemical Synthesis of Gentioibioses." M. Moureu remarked that this was the first hexibiose prepared by total synthesis. M. Bourquelot explained researches which he had made, in collaboration with M. Bridel, on the biochemical synthesis of  $\alpha$ -glucosides of polyvalent alcohols, particularly of glycerin and of glycol. M. Patein has studied the action of alkaline chlorides on calomel. He concludes that chlorates and lactates of soda and ammonia do not attack calomel so long as the mixture is neutral; only when it is alkaline does decomposition set in. The purgative action of calomel cannot be attributed to its partial decomposition in the stomach, for by administering it to patients in the form of globules coated so as to be unaffected by the gastric juices the purgative effects had been obtained. M. Moureu presented the fourth edition of his "Fundamental Notions of Organic Chemistry." In this edition catalytic reactions are dealt with at length, as well as synthetic methods based on the use of organo-metallic compounds, and the principal reactions caused by ultraviolet rays. Professor Grimbert presented a note by M. P. Fleury on a modification of Jonescu's reaction for benzoic acid. He proposes to replace heat by a catalyst (ferrous sulphate), which enables reaction to be obtained at a low temperature, thus avoiding risk of superoxidation.

M. DATCOURT, the French aviator, on his Paris to Cairo flight carried a "Tabloid" first-aid case on his monoplane. It was No. 707, a little case which has proved its worth in the hands of distinguished aviators.

THE IMPORTS OF DRUGS AND CHEMICALS into Paraguay during 1912 amounted in value to 44,585L., as compared with 40,234L. in 1911 and 31,105L. in 1910. Germany's share was 10,142L., the U.K. 9,161L., the U.S.A. 8,753L., and France 6,856L.

## AUSTRALASIAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of nine Societies of Chemists in Australia and New Zealand, and to many other Chemists in business there.

### The Commonwealth.

TARIFF COMMISSION.—The manufacturers of corks in Australia have appealed to the Interstate Commission for an increase in the import duty on corks. The duty is already high.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.—The Commonwealth Statistician has sent out a series of questions to friendly societies regarding the arrangements at present made for medical attendance and medicine supply. Suggestions are also asked for in regard to Insurance matters, and whether any particular branch is suitable for control by friendly societies.

HEALTH INSURANCE.—The "Chemist and Druggist of Australasia" published on October 20 a special number devoted entirely to the question of National Health Insurance. It is founded mainly on the experience of the British National Insurance Act, and consists of articles and interviews. Since the various contributions were written, however, further progress has been made in several directions. We gather from the editorial comments that a national scheme of Health Insurance is not wanted in Australia, owing to the differences in the social conditions of the people. The purpose in issuing the special number is to supply the data which pharmacists would require to have in case a scheme is introduced, and Government inquiries are already being made as to the feasibility of National Health Insurance.

### New South Wales.

DENTISTS ACT.—Mr. Levy gave notice in the Legislative Assembly on September 18 of his intention to move for the appointment of a Select Committee to report into the administration of the Dentists Act by the Dental Board.

EARLY CLOSING.—On September 11, in the Legislative Assembly, it was decided to request the Legislative Council to proceed with the Early Closing Bill which passed through the Legislative Assembly last Session and passed its first reading in the Council when Parliament was prorogued. The motion was carried by thirty-five votes to twenty-eight. Four speakers made a special point that the proposal to shut pharmacies at half-past seven interferes with the rights and conveniences of the public, and some advocated that pharmacists should be allowed to keep open at all times, provided the hours of assistants were limited to forty-eight.

### Tasmania.

Poisons Bill.—The Pharmacy Board have drafted a Poisons Bill which is to be submitted to the Attorney-General. Among the provisions is power to issue two forms of poison-licence—one for storekeepers, and another for wholesalers.

### Victoria.

WAGES BOARD.—Steps are being taken to revive the application made by the chemists' assistants for the appointment of a Wages Board.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.—The Government Visitor has informed the Pharmacy Board that the standard of the Preliminary examination is too low. He suggested that the standard of the Junior Public examination be adopted. The Board considered that the amount of Caesar might be reduced and the standard for Euclid and algebra slightly increased.

### Western Australia.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.—Mr. Ezra Parry has been returned without opposition to fill a vacancy on the Council, due to the retirement of Mr. F. W. Carter. Mr. Parry was an original member of the Pharmacy Board, and has been President. He was formerly an assistant with Ambrecht, Nelson & Co., London, and has been in Western Australia since 1892.

## SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

(From "C. & D." Correspondents.)

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

### The Union.

**CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN.**—The Commissioner of Customs states, in a circular regarding certificates of origin, that owing to the great and increasing amount of work thrown on the Customs Department by claims for refunds on goods the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom or of reciprocal British Colonies, which have not been claimed at the time of entry of the goods, it is found necessary to warn importers that under the regulations the certificates of origin must be produced at the time of importation and due entry. Importers, therefore, are warned that on and after December 1, 1913, unless the regulations are complied with, refunds will not be granted.

### Orange Free State.

**EXCISE ANOMALIES.**—In further reference to the paragraph in our issue of November 8 (index folio 695) giving details of the autocratic manner in which the Excise is administered, we hear from Bloemfontein that the situation shows a distinct improvement, the Department having now issued lists (A) of preparations in which rebated duty spirit may be used, and (B) of preparations not permissible. No reasons are given for disallowing the articles in list B beyond the statement that the Department is not satisfied they are non-potable, and it would be interesting to know the reason why ext. haematoxyl. liq. is barred. The intelligence shown in discriminating may be judged from the example that tinct. timonis B.P. may be prepared with rebated duty spirit, but the spirit may not be used for preparing the syrup where twice as much medicament in the shape of lemon-peel is used. At the same time, while syrup of lemon and tincture of ginger B.P. are not permitted, the old tinct. zingib. fort. and syrup of ginger are eligible. Bayrum is on list B, and has been the subject of much discussion, as it has been passed quite recently in the Cape and Natal Provinces. The explanation appears to be that the Department will pass a perfumed spirit containing a minimum of 3 per cent. of essential oils, and many formulae contain less than this amount. The special grievance of the Free State chemist is, that all questions regarding the use of rebated duty spirit have to be referred to the Transvaal, no matter how trifling they may be, while it is understood that the Department in the Cape Province decides independently.

### Transvaal.

MR. A. A. BONES, chemist and druggist, Pretoria, has been elected a member of the Executive Council of the Pretoria Chamber of Commerce.

**THE TENDER** of Mr. John Sachs, chemist and druggist, Market Street, Pretoria, for the supply of antisiphilitic medicines to the Department of the Interior has been accepted by the Union Tender Board for the period October 1, 1913, to March 31, 1914.

**PHARMACY BOARD NOMINATIONS.**—The election of the candidates for the three vacancies will take place on Thursday, December 4. We gave a list of the candidates in last week's issue. The elected members will serve for three years, with effect from January 1, 1914, or until the coming into operation of a Medical and Pharmacy Act for the Union. Mr. W. D. Quinn, L.D.S., being the only nominated dental member, has been declared duly elected a member of the Transvaal Medical Council, also for a period of three years.

A SEVERE HAILSTORM broke over the most prominent business quarter of Pretoria on November 3, doing considerable damage to shops and warehouses. Several chemists suffered severely through their stocks being damaged by water, these including the pharmacies of Mr. John Sachs, Market Street; the Koedoe Pharmacy, Pre-

torius Street; Tudor Pharmacy, Church Street; and Phillips & Co., Church Street. The total damage caused by the storm to shopkeepers in Pretoria is estimated at 100,000*l.*, while four large drapery stores sustained losses estimated at 10,000*l.* each.

### Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Province.

MR. JOHN PATTERSON, South African manager of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., recently delivered a lecture on Serums, Vaccines, and Tuberculin, under the auspices of the Society, in the Lecture Hall, Mercantile Buildings, Cape Town. There was a fair attendance, among those present being Messrs. J. Sowden (President), W. Froembiling, Ph.D., G. R. Cleghorn, T. B. Tibbett (Phillips & Co., Ltd., Pretoria), J. Austin Thomas, J.P., and Fergusson (Petersen, Ltd.). The lecture was illustrated by slides of pathogenic micro-organisms, as well as pictures of the Wellcome Physiological Research Laboratories. The tuberculinis are of special interest to South Africa at the moment, and these as issued by the lecturer's firm were fully described. The chemists attending the lecture cordially thanked Mr. Patterson for taking so much time in providing such an interesting and instructive lecture.

### A Staff Concert.

THE general staff of Messrs. Heynes, Mathew, Ltd., held a concert at Davis's Café, Adderley Street, Cape Town, on October 31, the occasion being the retirement of Mr. T. P. Dutton from the company's service, and the congratulation of Mr. R. W. Durrant (assistant secretary of the company) on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Margaret Badenhorst, daughter of Attorney Badenhorst, of Colesberg. Mr. F. C. Mathew, a director of the company, was chairman, and among those present were Mr. Alf. H. Mathew and Mr. H. J. Kinley, director and secretary of Heynes, Mathew, Ltd., respectively; also Mr. E. E. Merrington, an old and respected member of the staff, known in South Africa as "Uncle Ned." Upwards of fifty members of the local staff, including the ladies, took part in the proceedings. The chairman, duly supported with his mortar and pestle, presented Mr. Dutton with a gold watch-chain and a silver salver in recognition of his seventeen years' service with the house. Mr. Dutton suitably replied, remarking on the kindness and invariable courtesy he had always received from the principals and staff. Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Durrant were heartily congratulated by the chairman on their marriage. An excellent musical programme interspersed the proceedings.

### Natal Pharmaceutical Society.

A MEETING was held at Mr. G. Stuart Jones' rooms, Durban, on October 30. Mr. Dunkerton presided, and pointed out that Schedules A and B of the Regulations of the *Excise Act* were obtainable, and if any chemist knew of any preparation which he thought should be included, he was to inform the Hon. Secretary (Mr. Goodbrand), so that steps could be taken to secure its inclusion. Mr. Morris Stranack suggested that the Collector of Customs in Durban should be empowered to grant permission to medicate preparations in Schedule A. The matter was left in the hands of the President, Mr. Stranack, and the Hon. Secretary to deal with. The Hon. Secretary read correspondence he had received from the Staff Officer, Citizen Force, and the Under Secretary for Defence. The question of unregistered men dispensing in *The Citizen Force* was raised by the President, and it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Jones, "that the President and Hon. Secretary draft a letter to the Minister of Defence, asking that provision be made in the Regulations about to be framed for the Citizen Army to give registered chemists the opportunity within a reasonable time to attain to commissioned rank." Mr. Fyvie pointed out that it is difficult for an apprentice to attend lectures at the Technical Institute and at the same time put in the necessary number of drills as required by law. Mr. Anderson said that this had been brought to the notice of General Beyers, who agreed to increase the number of drills during the time the Technical Institute is closed, so that the course of study should be interfered with as little as possible. It was agreed to hold a *Dinner* about the middle of November. Mr. F. L. Dawber (Durban) was elected a member of the Society. Mr. I. N. Irving wrote from Carlisle tendering his resignation, which was received with regret.

**ITALIAN BORIC ACID AND BORAX.**—The exports of boric acid from Leghorn during 1912 amounted to 1,500 tons, valued at 29,912*l.*, against 1,843 tons, valued at 30,068*l.*, in 1911. The U.K. received 471 tons, or 31 per cent., as against 453 tons, or 25 per cent., in 1911. Of borax the exports were 78 tons (1,248*l.*), against 53 tons (875*l.*) in 1911, the U.K. receiving 8 per cent., as compared with 36 per cent. in 1911.

## NETHERLANDS NOTES.

(Special Correspondence to the 'C. & D.')

**Social Science.**—"Het Volk" states that Dr. L. Heyermans, Amsterdam, who is well known for his work on first-aid in factory accidents, and Dr. Stoop, Dordrecht, propose to establish a society of physicians, students of medicine, pharmacists, and pharmaceutical students, to promote the study of social science.

**The Use of Pharmacopoeias.**—Are Pharmacopoeias designed as a guide for the pharmacist or the physician? is a question which Dr. Bles discusses in "Moleschott," a journal of popular medicine. People have a wrong idea, he says, about the value of the Pharmacopoeia to the physician. It is only a book containing prescriptions for the preparation and analysis of medicines, these being the occupation of the pharmaceutist. He declares, however, that it is necessary for the State to fix standards, so that a preparation—*e.g.*, calomel lozenges—is always of the same strength. But a physician is at liberty to order these lozenges of any other strength he desires. He emphasises the fact that pharmacists, botanists, and chemists prepare the Pharmacopoeia according to the requirements of the physician.

## OUR AMERICAN LETTER.

(Special Correspondence to the "C. & D.")

**Mutual Fire Insurance** is now popular among druggists. Such companies, formed by druggists, are proving quite successful in Iowa, Wisconsin, Ohio, and other States. The same premiums are collected as by the old insurance companies, but at the end of the year a dividend is declared, amounting from 25 to 50 per cent. of the yearly premium.

**Exhibits for the Panama Exhibition.**—It is proposed to introduce into the Federal Legislature a Bill which will enable exhibitors at the Panama-Pacific Exposition to import free of duty articles and building materials intended for the Exposition. The Bill will require the Commissioner of Patents to record "any certificate of registration, copyright, trade-mark, or patent issued by any foreign Government," so as to protect the foreign exhibits at the Exposition.

**Kadam's Microbe-killer** has recently had an encounter with the Bureau of Chemistry, 861 cases of the preparation having been seized by the Government on account of extravagant claims as to medicinal value appearing on the labels. The case was tried in the district court, Minneapolis, Minn., and Dr. Carl L. Alberg, Chief of the Bureau of Chemistry, brought a large number of his staff to testify against the preparation. The goods may be destroyed or returned for relabelling on payment by the manufacturer of the legal costs, according as the Court may direct. British firms marketing their products—whether medicinal or toilet—in the United States will do well to examine the labels carefully, and modify any that may be construed as misleading or exaggerated.

**As Others See Us.**—An American who has been on a visit to London, writing in the "American Druggist," complains of the few chemists' shops to be met with in the City of London—his walk was from Ludgate Circus to the Bank of England. While it is obvious that the writer has not realised that the City of London (the central square mile) is almost entirely non-residential, and is not a shopping district, nor has he been able to appreciate the immense size of London with its hundreds of pharmacies, his comments are interesting. He writes:

The art of window display is unknown. I have since tried to understand why the London chemist is so far behind his American cousin in enterprise and success, and I have found but one explanation: he labors under the impression that the dignity of his profession forbids him to make any effort to solicit business. He is crushed by his singular sense of dignity which, in addition, seems to demand that he sell nothing but drugs. He is no common vender of miscellaneous wares. To be aggressive would be undignified; to be expansive would be immodest. So he cramps himself into an 8×10 shop and confines himself to the dispensation of drugs.

**REPORTING** on the trade of Leghorn during 1912, the British Consul states that the trade in copper sulphate, excepting that of local manufacture, has almost wholly returned to British firms. The proportion in 1912 was 98 per cent. from British sources, as compared with 85 per cent. in 1911. The total imports were 5,100 tons, valued at 118,652*l.*, as compared with 4,735 tons, valued at 90,916*l.* in 1911.

## LEGAL REPORTS.

### TRADE LAW.

**S. Marshall & Co., Ltd.**—In the Companies Winding-up Court on November 25, the petition was mentioned to Mr. Justice Astbury of Messrs. C. R. Harker Stagg & Morgan, Ltd., Mile End, manufacturing chemists, for the winding-up of Messrs. S. Marshall & Co., Ltd. Mr. Bennett, for the respondent company, asked for an adjournment of the petition, as his clients desired to put in evidence certain facts. The company had been endeavouring for some time past to settle with its creditors. In October a committee of five creditors was appointed. One was the petitioner, and four thought it advisable that a composition of 5*s.* in the pound on the amount of the debt should be accepted. Petitioners did not take that view. The four members were supported by a considerable body of creditors. Mr. Goldberg, for the petitioners, said the company had had ample opportunity to file their evidence. Not a single creditor had given notice to oppose the petition. His Lordship remarked that he observed that the large body of creditors supported the petition. It was a creditors' petition. Not a single creditor had given notice of opposition. Mr. Kingham, representing creditors for 511*l.* out of 1,300*l.*, said he supported Mr. Bennett. His Lordship asked if the company were to pay the debt to the petitioners. Mr. Bennett said they were not to pay in full. If a compulsory order were made there might be nothing for anybody. The majority of the creditors, both as regards number and in amount, were opposed to a compulsory order. It had been agreed by twenty-nine creditors, representing 917*l.* out of 1,300*l.*, to accept a composition. Mr. Goldberg said he thought the information was quite the other way. His Lordship said the petition would stand over for a week.

**Damages for Cocaine-poisoning.**—At Bow County Court on November 24, before Judge Smyly, K.C., Mrs. Marie V. Brittlebank, Woodford, sued Walter C. Watson-Woodford, who advertised painless dentistry, to recover 25*l.* damages on the ground that the defendant, having held himself out to be skilled in the art of dental surgery, took some of her teeth out, at which time she instructed him not to administer cocaine or any other anaesthetic, but in direct disobedience to her orders he did so. Thereby, it was alleged, he assaulted her, causing pain and suffering from his unskillful conduct, and poisoning by cocaine or some other noxious drug; in consequence of which she became ill. Mr. C. E. Jones, barrister, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. H. Tindal-Atkinson was counsel for the defence. The plaintiff gave evidence to the effect that she attended the defendant's surgery, and he twice gave her a local anaesthetic when extracting her teeth, but the drug made her so ill that when she went to him on the third occasion she distinctly told him not to give her any cocaine, and he promised to give her something else. Afterwards she became very ill, and her doctor said she was suffering from cocaine-poisoning, the consequence of which was that she had to go to her friends in Somerset for four weeks at a cost of about 10*l.* Dr. Sullivan, South Woodford, in the course of his evidence stated that the drug produced was codrenine, consisting of cocaine, adrenalin, chloretoe, and sterile water. He saw the plaintiff after the extractions, and found her suffering from cocaine-poisoning, and did not think it out of the way that it should last for a month. For the defence, Dr. J. Craig Crawford, South Woodford, gave evidence to the effect that he would have expected the poisoning to have gone off in three days. Mr. Thos. Maben, Ph.C., F.C.S., of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co.'s staff, said his firm manufacture codrenine, the composition of which he described, and the purpose of each ingredient. The injection administered in the present case contained less cocaine than the B.P. dose. The defendant stated, in evidence, that he is not registered. He certainly did not inject cocaine against the lady's will. Outside his house he had a plate "Dental surgery," and on his window "Painless dentistry." He had been in the business for fifteen years—five years as an apprentice, five years from place to place, and five years in business for himself. In giving judgment, his Honour said that in common law a certain onus is thrown on the person who extracts teeth. On the window defendant had "Painless dentistry," which can only be done by anaesthesia, and it is reasonable to expect that the person who practises it has knowledge of what he is doing. Defendant should have studied the use of codrenine and the effect of cocaine. The question therefore resolved itself into whether the plaintiff told the defendant she had suffered from cocaine and not to use it again, and he believed she did. It was defendant's duty to know that by cocaine she was referring to this substance. Plaintiff was entitled to recover, and he awarded her 15*l.* damages, and costs on "B" scale. Leave to appeal was granted.

**High Court Cases.**

**Unless when otherwise stated these cases have been heard in the High Court of Justice, London.**

**WHAT IS MALT VINEGAR?**

Before a Divisional Court of the King's Bench Division, composed of Justices Darling, Rowlatt, and Atkin, on November 21, the case of Grimble & Co. v. Preston was heard upon the appeal of the plaintiffs, Messrs. Grimble & Co., Ltd., vinegar brewers, London, against a conviction under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, 1875 and 1899, for the alleged giving of a false warranty in writing as to certain vinegar being "pure malt liquor." A fine of 7*l.*, and 5*l.* 12*s.* costs, was imposed. For the appellants Mr. Macmorran, K.C., and Mr. Bodkin appeared, and for the respondent Mr. Clavell Salter, K.C., and Mr. Maddocks.

The facts were that about February 1, 1913, the appellants delivered by carrier at Nuneaton to Mr. Farr, retail grocer, 25 gals. of vinegar in casks, each of which had a label attached thereto as follows :

"Guaranteed pure malt vinegar, free of added acid, warranted unadulterated.—Grimble & Co., Cumberland Market, London."

The invoice that Farr received said : "Guaranteed pure malt vinegar. All our vinegar warranted unadulterated." A portion of the vinegar was analysed by Mr. W. T. Rigby, F.I.C., analyst for Warwickshire, who certified that it contained not more than 70 per cent. of malt vinegar, 30 per cent. at least being vinegar not derived from malted barley or cereals. The summons was first issued against Farr, but was withdrawn on payment of 5*s.* costs, and proceedings were taken against the appellants. The reserve sample of vinegar was analysed by the Government chemists, who certified that it consisted of a mixture of malt vinegar with vinegar not derived from malt. The analyst estimated that the proportion of vinegar not derived from malt to be not less than one-third of the sample. When the case was heard the public analyst gave evidence that he considered that any vinegar that contains less than 0.05 per cent. of phosphoric acid is not malt vinegar. It was contended, on behalf of the appellants, that there is no standard for the constitution of malt vinegar or for the percentage of phosphoric acid which should be contained in malt vinegar with which the vinegar the subject of these proceedings could be compared, and therefore there was no evidence of the warranty being false. The questions of law for the Divisional Court were :

(1) Whether the Magistrates had jurisdiction irrespective of the provisions of Section 20 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899.

(2) Whether it was necessary that a copy of the public analyst's certificate should be served upon the appellants with the summons.

(3) Whether there was any standard for the constitution of malt vinegar or for the percentage of phosphoric acid that should be present in malt vinegar.

Counsel having addressed the Court, their Lordships decided against the appellants on the first and second points. On the third point Mr. Macmorran argued that there was nothing in the analysis from which any impartial person could say that the Justices could find as a fact that the vinegar as supplied by the appellants was not pure malt vinegar. The phrase "malt vinegar" is a trade description, and one as to which there is no scientific standard.

Mr. Justice Darling : Vinegar ought to be sour wine?

Mr. Macmorran : Strictly, yes; but vinegar can now be derived from cereals other than malt barley.

Mr. Justice Darling. Vinegar ought to be sour wine?

Mr. Macmorran : I do not think there is any legal definition of malt. Malt is usually said to be malted barley. Counsel said the case turned on the point whether the analyst was justified in saying, because he found 0.02 per cent., instead of 0.05 per cent., of phosphoric acid in the sample, that it was not malt vinegar.

Mr. Clavell Salter, K.C., having replied for the respondent, the Court unanimously dismissed the appeal, with costs.

**Poisons and Pharmacy Acts.****SNUFF WHICH CONTAINED COCAINE.**

Before the Birmingham Stipendiary (Baron Ilkeston) on November 26, G. V. Perkins, Ltd., chemists, 95 Colmore Row, with registered offices at 33 Newhall Street, Birmingham, were summoned for selling a poison—viz., a preparation of coca—which contained more than 1 per cent. of alkaloids in a bottle which was not properly labelled. The prosecution was at the instance of Mr. Harry Moon, on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society, and was conducted by Mr. W. S. Tunbridge, solicitor. Mr. H. J. Cheatle, solicitor, represented the defendants.

Mr. Tunbridge said the summons was taken out under Section 17 of the 1868 Act. An inspector of the Society called on October 24 at defendants' shop and purchased a bottle of their snuff. The bottle was labelled with the defendants' name, and also the words "The Snuff. G. Standfast, Esq., Book A, No. 1." Mr. Tunbridge suggested that the label was possibly intended to show that the snuff was the prescription of a medical man, entered on defendants' Book A, page 1. Mr. Tickle, of Exeter, who analysed the snuff, found that it weighed 102 grains, and contained 2.34 grains of cocaine. This was something like 2½ per cent., and the law requires that anything over 1 per cent. should be labelled "Poison." The inspector, who was unknown to the defendants, was not introduced by anyone, he was not asked what he wanted the snuff for, and he did not sign any poison-book, so that the statutory directions for the sale were not properly observed. The snuff was sold largely to people in Birmingham and district by licensed victuallers and tobacconists, and the people who used it, mainly working men, had no knowledge of what it contained, and they were liable by its use to contract the cocaine habit. Men had been discharged from their employment in consequence.

Mr. Cheatle contended it was not fair to make that statement unless the men were going to be called as witnesses so that he might have an opportunity to cross-examine them.

Mr. Tunbridge replied that he would call the men's employers if Mr. Cheatle wished to have the whole thing fought out. If the consequences of what had taken place were not allowed to come out, other prosecutions would follow. Mr. Tickle's evidence would prove the dangerous effects.

Jas. Richardson, a Pharmaceutical Society's inspector, proved the purchase, and Mr. Thomas Tickle, F.I.C., F.C.S., corroborated Mr. Tunbridge's statement as to the composition of the snuff. He was cross-examined by Mr. Cheatle in regard to the administration of cocaine and its effects.

George William Davies said there is a large sale of the snuff in the West Bromwich district, where he is chief inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. He had heard of harmful results, and because of that he had bought a bottle.

Mr. Cheatle, for defendants, commented on the fact that, while similar snuff had been sold in Birmingham for twenty-five or thirty years, the Pharmaceutical Society had taken no action until the defendants' company had been formed.

Mr. Tunbridge denied that it was the same snuff, or proceedings would have been taken.

Mr. Cheatle said he had himself bought the snuff, which was sold by the late F. A. Smith, Ltd. Mr. Standfast obtained the prescription from an eminent physician, and it was not denied that cocaine was an ingredient. He argued that under the Berry v. Henderson decision his clients had committed no offence.

George Jeanes, who supplied the snuff, was called. In answer to Mr. Cheatle, he said he is a qualified chemist. He treated the snuff as a prescription, and for that reason it was not labelled. He had tried the snuff himself, and it had acted as a pick-me-up. In cross-examination, he said Mr. Standfast allowed his friends to ask for the snuff. When his firm made up a doctor's prescription they did not make it up to everybody.

The Stipendiary asked witness if a man came with a doctor's prescription would he make it up for anyone suffering from the same ailment? Witness replied that he might. The Clerk said he had no right to sell it.

The doctor and the patient had the right to the prescription.

The Stipendiary decided to convict, and imposed a fine of 20s. and costs. He agreed to state a case on the points submitted by Mr. Cheatle. He allowed three guineas for advocate's fee and witnesses' railway fares.

## LIMITED COMPANIES.

### New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

BOW DRUG STORES, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 200*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. W. H. Lawrence is permanent governing director. R.O., 39 Devons Road, Bow, London, E.

W. M. CROSBIE & CO., LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 6,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of W. M. Crosbie, dealer in and miller of drugs, spices, drysalteries, etc., Island Mills, Crayford, Kent. W. M. Crosbie is the first director.

WILLIAM RAMSAY & CO., LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the Normandy Chemical Co., Ltd. The first directors are H. M. Allcyn, P. Ryan, and R. Currie. R.O., Hopetoun House, 5 Lloyds Avenue, London, E.C.

M. SURKART, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, general and advertising agents, etc. The first directors are M. Massaquant and A. Massaquant. R.O., 31 and 33 High Holborn, London, W.C.

CHARLES CRANE, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of pharmacy and drug-store proprietors, chemists, druggists, opticians, and photographic dealers. The first directors are C. Crane and Mrs. Annie Crane. R.O., 235-7 St. Helens Road, Bolton.

WITTON PHARMACY AND DRUG CO., LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of a drysalter and druggist carried on by E. Cotton at Witton Road, Witton, Birmingham. E. Cotton, bookbinder, is sole director. R.O., 405 Witton Road, Aston, Birmingham.

BOORMAN & CO. (BRISTOL), LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 250*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the businesses of chemists and druggists carried on by Collins & Co and Boorman & Co, at 29 East Street, Bedminster, Bristol. The first director is M. J. Boorman. R.O., 29 East Street, Bedminster.

J. A. RENNIE PUBLICITY CO., LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of advertising agents, manufacturers of and dealers in proprietary and patent goods and medicinal, pharmaceutical, and chemical articles, etc. The first directors are W. Shakespeare, jun., H. Dennis, and J. A. Rennie. R.O., 8 Bouvierie Street, London, E.C.

DAY & KNIGHT, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of manufacturers of and dealers in medicines, instruments, foods, ointments, lotions, pills, and remedies for horses, cattle, dogs, and other animals, carried on by R. H. Green and W. H. Whitehead at Maidstone as "Day & Knight." The first directors are R. H. Green, W. H. Whitehead, W. G. A. Kennedy, and J. Bush.

HARVEY & CO. (LIVERPOOL), LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business carried on at 20 Rathbone Street, Liverpool, as "Harvey & Co." to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in paints, oils, varnishes, and dyesware, boxes, tins, and cases, chemists, druggists, etc. The first directors are H. Harvey and M. Cohen. R.O., 76 Old Hall Street, Liverpool.

### Company News.

A. J. WHITE, LTD.—The directors have declared an interim dividend of 4 per cent.

PLWDENS DRUG STORES, LTD. To be voluntarily wound-up. Liquidator, Mr. G. E. Corfield, Balfour House, Finsbury Pavement, London, E.C.

BRITISH RADIUM CORPORATION, LTD.—The report for the year ended September 30, 1913, states that the cash sales of radium amounted to 12,159*l.*, and, after deducting working expenses at the mine, the trading profit is 5,782*l.* Deducting the London office charges, the net profit is 4,761*l.*, to which is added a balance of 1,326*l.* brought forward. Out of this amount interest on bonds and advances absorb 2,117*l.* The directors have written off the remaining balance of preliminary expenses to the amount of 118*l.*, also depreciation on development, plant, and buildings to the amount of 1,255*l.* The remaining balance of 2,596*l.* the directors propose to carry forward.

## BANKRUPTCY REPORT.

**Re William Carol Scott** (lately trading as Scott's Drug Stores), Ordnance Road, Enfield Lock, Middlesex.—The first meeting of creditors of the above was held last week at the offices of the Official Receiver, 14 Bedford Row, W.C. The Assistant Official Receiver reported that the debtor had not yet filed a statement of affairs. The debtor commenced business last May at the above address with capital of about 60*l.*, and on July 28 assigned his business to Scott's Drug Co., Ltd., receiving for the assets 250*l.* in 1*l.* shares in the company. He was the managing director, without fixed salary. At the date of the receiving order six creditors had obtained judgment against the debtor, and there had been two executions, besides a bill of sale in favour of his housekeeper, the consideration being 100*l.* already advanced. The bill of sale included furniture and optical instruments. Some of the latter had not been paid for. Questions would arise on the bill. The debtor had stated that he had paid 100*l.* as the deposit for a business at Wrexham, North Wales, which had since been forfeited as he had not completed the purchase. On August 2 last he gave the certificate for his shares in the company to a lady at Ilkley. He did not owe her anything. The failure was attributed to insufficient capital and keen competition. No books had been kept by the debtor, who first became aware that he could not pay his liabilities in full at the middle of July last. The Chairman added that the debtor had written offering his creditors 2*s.* in the pound, payable out of instalments of 1*l.* a month. The matter was left in the hands of the Official Receiver.

## GAZETTE.

### Partnerships Dissolved.

BARLOW, J., and BARLOW, S., South Lambeth Road, London, manufacturers and dealers in photographic papers and chemicals, under the style of the Bromide Paper Co. DAVISON, R. T., and CRAN, H. R., "Vernham" and "Netherdale," New Malden, medical practitioners, under the style of Davison & Cran.

### The Bankruptcy Acts.

#### RECEIVING ORDER.

DUNCAN, W. H., Clapton Common, physician and surgeon.

#### ADJUDICATIONS.

SCOTT, W. C., Ordnance Road, Enfield Lock, chemist, formerly trading under the style of Scott's Drug Stores.

TRAYLEN, CHARLES LEONARD, Dean Road, Willesden Green, medical practitioner.

WILLIAMS, WILLIAM ELEDER, High Street, Swansea, and High Street, Treorchy, Glamorgan, and carrying on business at High Street, Swansea, chemist and druggist.

## BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

A DISPENSARY for Insurance prescriptions only is being opened by a qualified chemist at 8 East Street, Walworth, London, S.E.

MR. G. E. WILLIAMS, pharmacist, has purchased the pharmacy at Aldeburgh-on-Sea, Suffolk, carried on by the late Mr. F. T. Cooper.

WALLER & RILEY, LTD., chemists, Bradshawgate, Bolton, have opened a branch pharmacy at 45 and 47 Egerton Street, Moses Gate, near Bolton.

MR. B. BARNATO, of the Anglo-American Drug Stores, 61 Charlotte Street, Landport, has opened a new branch at 17 Meadow Street, Landport.

MR. W. JONES, chemist-optician, has disposed of his business at 82 Whippendell Road, Watford, to Mr. Andrew H. Paton, chemist and druggist, late of Paisley.

MR. W. B. STUTHER, chemist and druggist, who served his apprenticeship with Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, F.C.S., and was for some years assistant pharmacist at the Sheffield Royal Infirmary, is about to open a business in Infirmary Road, Sheffield, where complaints have been made of insufficient provision for dispensing Insurance prescriptions.

## BIRTHS.

AARGARD.—At 27 Midhurst Avenue, Muswell Hill, London, N., on November 21, the wife of G. Aargard (Peter Moeller, Ltd.), of a daughter.

CHRISTIE.—At Ochil House, Mayfair, Transvaal, on November 4, the wife of J. Christie, chemist and druggist, Fordsburg, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGES.

BRUCE—Boot.—At St. Anne's, Soho, London, on November 25, by the Rev. F. R. C. Bruce, D.D., and the Rev. Hervey Bruce, brothers of the bridegroom, Commander Wilfrid Montagu Bruce, R.N.R., to Dorothy Florence, elder daughter of Sir Jesse and Lady Boot.

The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. John Boot. She wore a gown of ivory charmeuse draped with Irish lace and embroidered in pearls. Her two bridesmaids (Miss Marjorie Boot and Miss Joyce Dyman) were dressed in white broché veiled in net edged with marabout, and wore wreaths of gold leaves in place of hats. Lieutenant Rennick, R.N. (who, like the bridegroom, was a member of Scott's Antarctic Expedition), was best man. About thirty officers and men of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve lined the aisle and formed an archway with their cutlasses as the bride and bridegroom left the church. Lady Boot afterwards held a reception at the Langham Hotel.

ELLIS—MACKENZIE.—At Ferme Park Baptist Chapel, Hornsey, by the Rev. Charles Brown, D.D., on November 22, John Attwill Ellis, A.M.I.C.E., Canadian Pacific Railway, to Agnes, eldest daughter of Mr. Donald Mackenzie, chemist, London (Messrs. T. & H. Smith, Ltd.).

WARD—ATKINSON.—At St. Peter's, Broadstairs, by the Rev. C. C. Cooper, on November 20, William John Ward, chemist and druggist, to Dora Louisa, eldest daughter of the late Mr. S. H. Atkinson and Mrs. Atkinson, of Kearsney Avenue, River, formerly of Dover.

## DEATHS.

BULCOCK.—On November 19, Mr. Joseph Henderson Bulcock, registered dentist, "Haslemere," Clitheroe, Lancs, aged fifty-nine. Mr. Bulcock served his apprenticeship as a chemist in his father's pharmacy in Church Street, Clitheroe, but later deserted pharmacy for dentistry.

DANIEL.—At Dumfries, on November 22, Mr. John Daniel, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-three. Mr. Daniel was registered as having been in business before the Pharmacy Act, 1868, and since his registration he had carried on business in Rickergate, Carlisle, and for the past twenty-five years at 152 High Street, Dumfries. He was for several years a member of the Dumfries Parish Council, and one of the most noted musicians of the district.

FLETT.—At the European Hospital, Seremban, Federated Malay States, on October 8, Mr. William White Flett, chemist and druggist, and manager of the Seremban Dispensary, Ltd. The late Mr. Flett had been in Malaya about seven years, being first with the Singapore Dispensary, but for the past six years he had been at Seremban. Mr. Flett was an Orcadian, and passed the Minor examination in July 1900.

GATER.—At 23 Victoria Road, Peckham, London, S.E., on November 11, Mr. James Gater, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-four. Mr. Gater was in business prior to the passing of the Pharmacy Act of 1868.

GREENWELL.—On November 13, Mr. Richard Henry Greenwell, 26 Red Rose Terrace, Chester-le-Street, Durham, aged eighty-one. Mr. Greenwell went to Chester-le-Street, in 1853, as manager for Mr. Geo. Murray, chemist and druggist, whom he eventually

succeeded. He continued in business for forty-five years before retiring.

MOXON.—On November 20, Mrs. Moxon, wife of the late Mr. J. L. Moxon, pharmacist, 252 Park Road, Liverpool. With the help of a qualified manager Mrs. Moxon carried on her husband's business after his death, and was well known locally as a counter-prescriber. For one who had not served an apprenticeship to the drug-trade her knowledge was surprising. She leaves behind a son and a daughter still in their minority.

SHAPLAND.—At the North Devon Infirmary, on November 19, Mr. John Shapland, dispenser, Barbican Road, Barnstaple, aged seventy.

WARDLEY.—At Tunbridge Wells, on November 14, after an operation, Mr. Samuel Frederick Wardley, chemist and druggist, 114 Upper Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells, aged sixty-three. Mr. Wardley was apprenticed at Lowestoft. He became a partner with Mr. Wilmer at 140 High Street, Tonbridge, about thirty years ago. On the latter's retirement Mr. Wardley conducted the pharmacy on his own account until he was joined ten years ago by Mr. T. J. Clarke, chemist and druggist. Mr. Wardley retired from business in 1911, and had since resided in Tunbridge Wells. He was a prominent Wesleyan.

YOUNG.—At Seamills, Newport, Fife, on November 20, Mr. Charles Young, chemist and druggist, late of Maxwellton, Dundee. Mr. Young was in business before the Pharmacy Act, 1868.

## PERSONALITIES.

*Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated and must not be in the nature of advertisements.*

CAPTAIN MULGRUE, representing Messrs. Prichard & Constance, Ltd., with Amami preparations, has arrived in Calcutta.

MR. G. R. HANKINSON, chemist and druggist, has been unanimously elected President of the Uttoxeter Chamber of Trade.

MR. THOS. DAVIES, chemist and druggist, has been nominated to fill a casual vacancy on the Carmarthen Town Council.

MR. HENRY S. WELLCOME has given a donation of 1,000/- to the Royal Geographical Society for the new premises fund.

MR. W. H. HEWETT, chemist and druggist, King's Road, Brighton, has been nominated to fill a casual vacancy on the local Town Council.

MR. W. J. BRINSON, Midlands representative of Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., has removed to "Acacia," Gatefield Road, Nether Edge, Sheffield.

W. BRO. JOHN HOLT, chemist and druggist, Yarm, Divisional Secretary for the Cleveland District of Yorkshire, is to be installed W.M. of the Tees Lodge, No. 509, on December 4.

MR. E. H. CHURCH, Vice-President of Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association, was returned on November 24 at the top of the poll at the Borough Council by-election for St. Andrew's Ward.

MR. W. S. GLYN-JONES, M.P., has suffered a bereavement through the death of his father, Mr. George Griffith Jones, Registrar of Marriages, Aberdare, who passed away at his residence on Sunday, November 23, in his sixty-eighth year.

MR. F. W. TRUMAN, MR. W. PERKES PARRY, and MR. J. WELLESLEY DOUGLAS were present at the Leet Jury dinner at the Holborn Restaurant on Thursday, November 20. Mr. Douglas contributed two violin solos to the musical programme.

MR. A. E. RICHMOND, President of the Great Yarmouth Pharmaceutical Association, was appointed Third Grand Principal at the Norfolk Provincial Chapter, held at Norwich on November 20. Mr. J. S. Shearman, Hon. Secretary of the same Association, was appointed one of the Sojourners.

## TRADE NOTES.

PARFUMERIE V. RIGAUD, Paris, have established a branch of their business at 164 Piccadilly, London, W.

VINOLIA LYSYL as a selling line during the winter season is the subject of the Vinolia Co.'s advertisement. The styles in which it is put up are illustrated.

DR. FROMBERG'S JOINT PREPARATION is being extensively advertised at present by the Midland Drug Co., Nottingham. Particulars are given as to prices and wholesale agents in our advertising pages.

HOT-WATER BOTTLES.—Messrs. W. Toogood, Ltd., 77 Southwark Street, London, S.E., in their advertisement in this issue, give a useful detailed price-list of the various kinds and sizes of hot-water bottles.

MENTHULLS.—Messrs. Blyton, Astley & Co., Eagle Laboratories, Manchester, offer to send a free sample of Menthulls to any chemist who has not hitherto stocked this product. A postcard request is all that is necessary.

"THE INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION OF PETROLEUM" is the subject of a neat little pamphlet published by Messrs. W. Browning & Co., manufacturing chemists, 4 Lambeth Palace Road, London, S.E., a copy of which any chemist can obtain upon application.

FRENCH PROPRIETARIES.—Messrs. Gilbert Kimpton & Co., Peninsular House, Monument Street, London, E.C., the British agents for A. Géraudel, offer advertising matter referring to Géraudel's pastilles and Jécol. The latter is a preparation for treating liver disorders.

ROOKE'S REMEDIES.—The winter advertising campaign of Dr. Charles Rooke's Remedies has commenced. Dr. Charles Rooke, Ltd., 27 Chancery Lane, London, W.C., take the opportunity of giving in our advertising pages details of the protected retail and wholesale prices of these specialities.

THE EVANITE POCKET LAMP BATTERY.—In Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb's advertisement in the *C. & D.*, November 22, p. 27, the figure 1 dropped out from the quotation for 12 doz. of the batteries. The line should have read :

12 doz. @ 3s. 6d. per doz. net (can be taken in 2 deliveries).

"MODERN RETAILING," a journal issued by the National Cash Register Co., Ltd., 225 Tottenham Court Road, London, W., has reached No. 4, and is to have, we are told, a circulation of 300,000 copies. It contains some interesting articles, among them being one by Mr. Thomas Russell, entitled "Pictures for Shopkeepers," which deals with the kind of illustrations required in advertisements; and another, by Mr. H. C. Banwell, on "How Can I Make my Business Grow?" "Modern Retailing" appeals to both proprietors and assistants. Those who have not seen a copy should write for one.

PEARS' ANNUAL FOR 1913 is, we think, the best that Messrs. A. & F. Pears, Ltd., have ever published. It embodies a fine variety of illustration, combining the Mid-Victorian in Art with the Modern, as well as the old and new methods of producing coloured pictures. The literary contents are also varied, such writers as Pett Ridge, Keble Howard, Max Pemberton, William le Queux, and George R. Sims contributing good examples of their best manner, and Mr. T. P. O'Connor writing about the House of Commons in reminiscent vein. Harry Furniss illustrating him—everything in the Annual is illustrated by a distinct artist. It is a marvellous sixpence-worth, and three fine coloured pictures, suitable for framing, are thrown in with it.

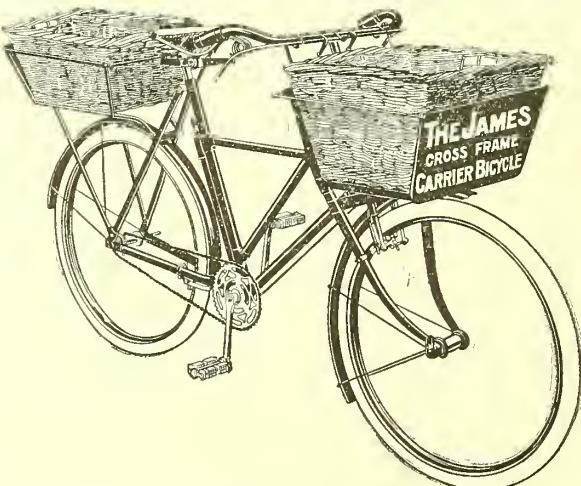
NAZALIA.—Mr. H. C. Payne, manufacturing chemist, 78 Essex Road, London, N., has devised a remedy, called "Nazalia," for catarrh, bronchitis, and other diseases of the respiratory organs, which has won its way rapidly into public favour. Nazalia is in the form of a soft antiseptic ointment, which is applied to the interior of the nostrils and medicated the air breathed through the nose. To advertise it Mr. Payne publishes "Nazalia News," devoted to information and testimonials regarding Nazalia. This publication is supplied to agents in addition

to other advertising matter. Nazalia sells at 1s. 11d. and 2s. 6d., and the prices are fixed to yield 20 per cent. profit to the retailer. Mr. Payne invites correspondence from chemists who would be willing to consider the question of taking up agencies.

P.A.T.A. PRICES.—The additions to the Protected List during November are : Allenburies' Chrismol preparations; Amami manicure booklets; Bishop's additional preparations; Bromley's additional preparations; Dearborn's additional preparations; "Dorset" perfumery (additional); Henne Broux; MacSweeney's additional preparations; oil of orlene capsules; Polylactol; Sanitas additional preparations; Saunders' buttermilk emulsion; Semproline preparations; Wande's additional preparations; Weeks' preparations; Visem tablets, chocolate-coated. The following have been removed from the List : Northam's Herbal K. Pills (or Mighty Atoms); Warner-Oliver & Co.'s preparations; Cozzin's new formula for asthma; Sanitas air purifier (sawdust), sea-water fluid-insecticide, liquid soap, and embrocation for human and veterinary use (11½d. and 9s. 6d.).

"SCIENTISTS' REFERENCE BOOK AND DIARY."—The edition for 1914 has just been published by Messrs. James Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd., Manchester. It is in pocket-book form, with pencil, the cover being leather. The inside contents are in two parts—the first containing the numerous scientific data, which are the special feature, while the second part consists of the diary proper. The scientific factors given include many of interest to chemists, such as analytical factors, first-aid in poisoning and injuries, definitions of scientific terms, comparisons of weights and measures, atomic weights, synonyms, physical constants, solubilities, microscopy, meteorology, chemical composition of food, etc. The "Scientists' Reference Book and Diary" carries with it an accident assurance policy. A few could be sold by most chemists if suitably introduced to customers, and they are also useful for presentation purposes.

CARRIER CYCLES are specialised in by the James Cycle Co., Ltd., and now that so many customers prefer to have their goods "sent home," these are practically a necessity for every retail chemist. We illustrate their "cross-frame" open fork carrier cycle. The splayed fork of this machine provides substantial base for the front carrier platform, and moreover resists buckling. The cross-frame allows even balance of load and easy mounting or alighting, owing to the dropped tube. This type costs 8l. 10s. complete, as shown, with front and rear baskets and name-plates. There are cheaper models of single



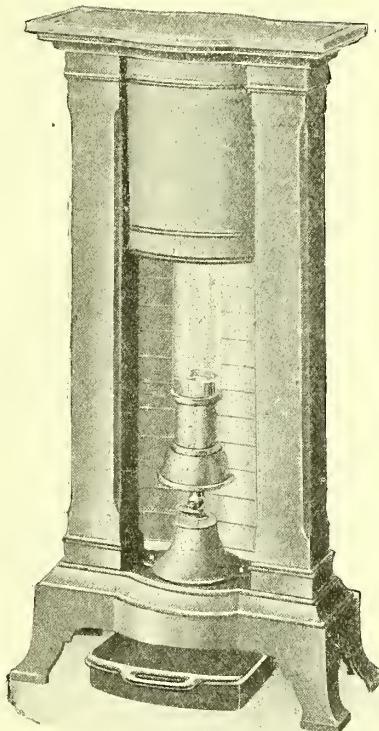
carriers from 6l. 15s., all being designed for hard wear, the hubs, fork crown, and front wheel being specially strengthened. The James carrier tricycle (14l. and 17l. 10s.) takes heavier loads. All these can be purchased by monthly instalments if desired. For rapid delivery in town or country districts there is the James motor carrier

(73*l.* 10*s.*), and a point worth remembering is that the carrier is interchangeable with a passenger-car. The James Cycle Co., Ltd., 22 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C., and at Birmingham and Dublin, would be pleased to send chemists further particulars or arrange for inspection of their carrier cycles.

**SHOP-WARMING.**—Clark's Syphon Stove Co., Ltd., 132 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., have this season introduced a variety of the syphon-stove, under the name of the "Phoenix." It is on the same lines as the well-known patterns, except that the upright condensers at the side are square, and the outlet for the heated air is at the edges of the top plate, instead of in the centre. These differences improve very much the appearance of the stove, as will be seen from the illustration. We also noted in the showroom a cheap form of gas hot-water heater, known as the "Dart."

This is on what is known as the "open" system—*i.e.*, the gas comes into direct contact with the water, hence the supply is not suitable for dispensing purposes. For other purposes, however, where hot water is required about the pharmacy, the "Dart" is efficient and cheap. It raises the temperature of 2 gals. of water 40° per minute.

**RHEUMATIC INFECTIONS.**—Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., Beak Street, London, W., have published under this title a brochure explanatory of the phylacogens which they have recently introduced for the treatment of rheumatism and other diseases of microbial origin. These products are a new departure in vaccine therapeutics in so far as they differ in manner of production and in *rationale* from antitoxic serums prepared *in vivo*, and even from vaccines made *in vitro* from the bacillary infections such as that of furunculosis. The phylacogens originated with Dr. Schaefer, and are based upon the fact that many toxic affections of the human body are due to one specific organism acting along with several others more generally found in association with other disorders. Dr. Schaefer conceived the idea of preparing pure cultures of each of the pathogenic micro-organisms individually, filtering each liquid through porcelain, thus sterilising it, then combining the liquids according to the nature of the ailment to be treated, and his observations upon the micro-organisms found in that ailment. This, it will be observed, is a rational deduction from the practice in preparing self-vaccines; yet Dr. Schaefer's method was not at first accepted with favour in the United States, and Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. probably had that reception in view when resolved to give the process of preparation and the action of the products a very searching trial before they put them on the market as therapeutic agents. Two years were spent in this manner, and in that time the firm proved every



stage of the manufacturing process, not only as regards its consistence with the science of bacteriology, but in its uniformity of production. Then the products were submitted to physiological research and clinical trial, voluminous results being obtained, so that when the phylacogens were put on the market they were proved remedies. They are for the treatment of various ailments, but the brochure deals chiefly with cases of rheumatic affections in which the rheumatism phylacogen has been very successful; indeed, cases have been treated in this country which are little short of miraculous. We observe that the brochure does not claim the phylacogens to be specific in all cases, as recent publications have also demonstrated; hence the brochure is opportune as giving statements from the widest series of cases available.

## Textile Chemistry.

**A**T the Imperial College of Technology on November 26, Mr. W. P. Dreaper, F.I.C., delivered the second of his two lectures on the "Research Chemist in the Textile Industry." Owing to the illness of Professor Meldola the chair was taken by Dr. McGowan. Taking up the subject where he left it at the close of his last lecture (see C. & D., November 1, index folio 656), Mr. Dreaper dealt with the possible explanations of the retention of a dye by a fibre. The dye must be in a colloidal state, and it is most possible that the separate molecules pass into the fibre and segregate there, thus forming a complex which is not readily removed by water. That some definite action takes place between the dye and the fibre is shown by the fact that while methyl orange in solution is very sensitive to acid, a concentration of acid amounting to one-fiftieth normal is required to change the colour of a fibre dyed by this compound. The character of the fibre is of considerable importance, since in the case of cotton the effect of acid is increased by raising the temperature, while with wool and silk the action is diminished. It has been found that considerable quantities of acid are developed in a silk fabric which has been stored after dyeing. This has been traced to the reversible reaction between salts, whereby acid has been liberated in the free state and absorbed by the fibre.

With regard to the aniline-dye industry, the lecturer mentioned that the manufacture of these dyes has increased largely in this country in the last few years, so that English manufacturers are now competing both in Germany and in other markets.

The manufacture of different kinds of fabrics was briefly dealt with, as well as the development of the crêpe industry. Mr. Dreaper said that the buying of fibres must of necessity in the near future pass more and more into the province of the chemist, who will apply more valuable and conclusive tests. A curious point was brought out with regard to South African wool, which is of low quality, the reason being that the official sheep-dip in that country is a caustic lime and sulphur one, which, though probably beneficial to the sheep, is rather detrimental to the wool. The older processes of bleaching, in which bleaching-powder is employed, are rapidly giving way before the electrolytic bleach. Slides were shown of the various appliances used for bleaching and washing. Pieces of fabric were printed in the lecture-room by means of the hand-blocks and the modern aerograph by which dye is sprayed on to the fabric through metallic stencils. Many fine samples of printing were shown, and slides illustrating the various processes through which the fabric passes before it reaches the public. In conclusion the lecturer stated that the two points he wished to impress on the young chemist are, first, that chemical training alone is no use in industrial work without the adaptability which will force the chemical knowledge into profitable channels, and secondly, that success depends largely on strict attention to detail.

**PERSIAN QUINCE-SEED.**—The exports from Baghdad during 1912 were 221 bags (2,520*l.*), against fifty-six bags (74*l.*) in 1911 and 153 bags (1,936*l.*) in 1910.

## POISONING FATALITIES.

FIVE fatalities due to the effects of poison have been reported during the week.

*Aconite*.—Ann Murphy (48) died at Gateshead through taking belladonna and aconite liniment. An open verdict was returned at the inquest. It appeared that the liniment, which was prescribed as Insurance medical benefit, was dispensed in a corrugated poison-bottle and marked "Not to be taken." This was pointed out by Dr. Arnold to Coroner Graham, who rejoined, "That is quite right; but 'Not to be taken' and 'Poison' are very different. For goodness sake, let them put the red label on poisons. I do not think this is at all a creditable state of things." The Coroner, after summing up, added that he thought the jury would agree that a message should be sent to the chemist telling him that he must not send out the liniment containing active poisons without putting a red poison-label on the bottle. He also requested his police officer to call upon the pharmacist and tell him what had been said about the label.

*Carbolic Acid*.—At Mountjoy East, co. Tyrone, Wm. Hemphill, a farmer, committed suicide with this poison.

*Laudanum*.—Thos. S. Beggs, a publican, poisoned himself at Larne with laudanum. Mr. G. H. Carleton, Ph.C., Dunluce Street, Larne, deposed at the inquest to selling deceased 1½ oz. of laudanum for treating a horse. The Coroner (Dr. J. J. Adams) said the Government, in their wisdom, had made it possible for people to obtain any quantity of laudanum without question, whereas in other poisons, such as strichnine and arsenic, people must sign for it. He relieved Mr. Carleton of all blame.—The death by misadventure of Jane Poskitt (39), at Gateshead-on-Tyne, was due to the same opiate.

*Spirit of Salt* was the suicidal agent used by an old man named John Moore at Walworth.

## Spectaclemakers' Company.

WE referred last week to the November examinations of the Spectaclemakers' Company. These were formally opened at St. Bride Institute, London, E.C., by Professor Silvanus P. Thompson. The written papers at the examinations were on "General and Practical Optics" (three hours) and "Sight-testing" (three hours), there being also practical tests. The following is the sight-testing paper:

1. Describe the appearance, structure, situation, and supports of the crystalline lens. Give its dimensions, refractive indices, and state what are its functions in the eye.

2. A person aged eighteen is found to have, with a -1 D lens, his P.R. at 66 cm. and his P.P. at 10 cm. What refractive condition and amplitude of accommodation are apparently indicated by these figures? What reasons would you have for doubting the accuracy of the indications obtained?

3. Transpose into the usual forms and make torics with a -9 D base curve the following lenses:

$$\begin{array}{ll} R. +0.75 \text{ sph.} & L. -0.25 \text{ sph.} \\ -2.25 \text{ cyl. ax. } 35^\circ & +1.75 \text{ cyl. ax. } 125^\circ \end{array}$$

4. It is required to obtain a prismatic effect of 1.5 Δ base down for the right eye, how much and in what direction should each of the following lenses be decentered to obtain this effect?

$$\begin{array}{ll} R. +2.5 \text{ sph.} & L. +3.75 \text{ sph.} \\ -2.0 \text{ cyl. ax. } 180^\circ & +0.75 \text{ cyl. ax. } 90^\circ \end{array}$$

5. What do you understand by (a) The yellow spot? (b) The blind spot?

Give their situations and dimensions, and state how you could demonstrate the presence of the blind spot.

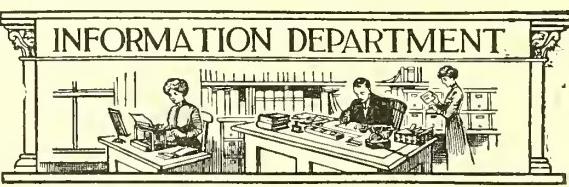
6. Illustrate by two diagrams the correctness of the following rule: "As the slope of the nose increases, the slope of the sides of a W bridge decreases." Indicate clearly in a third diagram the angle formed by (a) the slope of the nose, and (b) the slope of the sides of the bridge.

7. What is a Maddox rod? For what is it used? How is the formation of the streak of light brought about?

8. Explain the action of the pin-hole disc in improving vision in ametropia. What is its utility and limitations?

9. Define the following terms: (a) Angle α (alpha). (b) Angle γ (gamma), (c) Listing's axis, (d) Optic axis, (e) Visual axis.

10. What is a chromatic disc? Of what is it composed? What are its uses and its disadvantages?



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## INFORMATION WANTED.

Would any reader who knows please inform us by postcard or telephone of the names and addresses of the agents or makers of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries:

- 19/63. "Kino fils" brilliantines.
- 34/3. "Vibro" (for dogs): makers.
- 28/25. Goat-lymph tablets: makers.
- 31/900. Waters' female pills: supply.
- 19/26. "Guicine": maker or supply.
- 31/9. Powell's magic pills: proprietors.
- 32/17. Carter's liver invigorator: supply.
- 24/15. "Pymadine" (for paint): makers.
- 29/9. Moreland's embrocation: suppliers.
- 34/300. "Beyer's Corn-plasters": makers.
- 21/72. "Confectogen": maker or supplier.
- 21/72. Emil Lubiner's brilliantines: supply.
- 15/16. Proprietors of "Cole's Indian Balm."
- 28/7. Dr. Talbin's nebulizer (No. 16): suppliers.
- 32/41. Magnesia blocks, "W. & B. M.": makers.
- 22/51. "Armstrong's Asthma Cure": proprietors.
- 19/63. "Luscol" (a paraffin preparation): makers.
- 30/22. "Dodworth Co." (formerly of Leeds): address?
- 28/26. Prepared poultices ("Liliebe, Hamilton & Co."): supply.
- 35/39. Address of Radcliffe & Co., manufacturers of chlorodyne, liquorice, and linseed lozenges.

## INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to where the following articles are obtainable wholesale. We shall be glad to repeat the information to others who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- Abbey's effervescent salt, 21/33
- "Aidum" shelflets, 26/56
- Antiformin, 23/18
- "Arcadia" perfume, 25/42
- Bateman's acoustical tube, 27/731
- Benedictine tooth-paste, 25/34
- Biddle's fluid dog-soap, 19/63
- Bottle-washing machinery, 25/20
- Broux hair-dye, 25/1
- Brown's automatic stills, 25/57
- Buckley's uterine tonic, 22/20
- Carter's "No-Corn," 25/23
- Castor oil (British makers, for U.S.A.), 20/25
- Charcoal manufacturers, 25/21
- Clement's tonic, 25/230
- "Floradora" cachous, 19/26
- Gilbertson's feeders, 13/39
- Glycolactophos, 22/14
- Gold-embossed seals, 20/43
- Honoré Payan's perfumery, 25/51
- Invalid chairs, 25/330
- "Ivorena" toilet-powder, 22/190
- Japanese lion dentifrice, 19/260
- Lymph-grinding machines, 19/22
- Lyon's tooth-powder, 19/263
- Mackenzie's cough-linctus, 27/730
- Madam Langley's shampoo powders, 15/16
- Maltaffin, 22/67
- Mechanical powder folder and measurer, 57/36
- Metal perfume sprays (French), 24/3
- Metchnikoff milk culture (for sour milk), 21/34
- Miller Rubber Co.'s agents, 18/9
- Moskitin, 27/732
- Muscatal, 27/73
- Osgen, 21/330
- Ovaline soap, 22/510
- Ozoline, 14/35
- Paraffagar, 19/46
- "Perfect Gem" hot-water bottle, 17/39
- Perol, 15/16
- Pertussin (London agents), 26/15
- Resor-Bisnol tablets, 22/24
- Rosseter's hair-restorer, 4/55
- Saccharated wheat phosphates, 19/56
- Sanaglobin, 19/450 and 32/47
- Ticket-writers, 245/30
- Tin boxes (ointment), 16/34
- Vapo-naphthol, 19/52
- "Victory Absorbent," 4/61
- Vino Vitæ, 11/55
- Vitalite socks, 6/52
- Water-baths, makers, 7/58
- Water-stilles, 18/40
- Wood's laxative pills, 22/25
- Zinoline soap, 18/13

Many other replies have been forwarded to inquirers, but space does not permit their specification in this issue.

## OBSERVATIONS AND REFLECTIONS.

By Xrayser II.

### "Historicus"

is always interesting, and his letter of last week is extraordinarily so. If he is really no more than an average drug-store proprietor and his case is a typical one, the Insurance Act has been thrice blessed in its effect, for (1) it has enabled the public to distinguish between qualified and unqualified chemists, which is good both for the public and for us; (2) it has diverted dispensing from the unqualified to the qualified, which again is good both for the public and for us; and (3) it has brought the unqualified a sufficient increase of general business to reconcile them to their other losses. These are just the results we anticipated, though "Historicus" appears to be surprised by them; but then he is not quite up to date in another matter, for he foretells, as an after-effect of the Act, the rise of a "second order of chemists," which, as a matter of fact, has been in existence some thirty-five years, and to which he actually belongs. The Act is emphasising, as he sees, the inferior position of this second order, and in effect, though not in set terms, recognises it—as an order that cannot dispense Insurance prescriptions. What more does "Historicus" want?

### Linking-up the Committees

is the question of the moment; how is it to be done? Mr. A. E. Bailey's scheme has not been condemned by anybody, as far as I have seen, although some meetings of chemists have, by resolution, expressed alarm at the possibility of the Pharmaceutical Society not having the work to do. Your article in which linking-up of Pharmaceutical Committees is discussed gives the Society the opportunity of "more visibly working with us" that I suggested last week. Your scheme possesses the essential characteristics for the object aimed at by Mr. Bailey. These are that it is direct, the Central Committee being composed of men selected from the local Committees, all of whom have been elected for the purpose of working the Insurance Act; it is representative in the truest possible sense, every panel chemist throughout the country has a representative of his district on the Central Committee, and any question arising in connection with that district has, therefore, some one man ready to take it up; it is logical, the scheme fits into the present position without the least difficulty, and builds up from the foundation, instead of down from the top, and it harmonises with the obvious intentions of the Commissioners—namely, that the Central Committee should be elected for a definite purpose. I am a loyal member of the Pharmaceutical Society, yet I believe it would be the gravest blunder ever committed if the Council of the Society used its power to oust the Standing Committee on Insurance, and tried to take its place. Your exposition of the linking-up process ought to remove from the minds of hyper-loyal members the idea that such advocacy is traitorous to the Society, and show them that by working with those English chemists who are carrying out the details the Society will act more consistently with its functions as a chartered body and the parent of British pharmaceutical organisations.

### Liverpool Pharmacists

have from the very first contended that the peculiar conditions of business in their city entitle them to exemption from the requirements of the Shops Act, or, at least, to exceptional treatment with regard to the weekly half-holiday. It is not for me to say whether this plea of peculiar conditions is a valid one or not, but we are all apt to think our conditions peculiar when the shoe pinches, and I suspect that the pharmacists of other places than Liverpool might claim exceptional treatment with an equal show of reason. Apparently some of us have yet to learn that we cannot get anything for nothing, that neither we nor anybody else can enjoy the undoubted benefits of the Act without

a little sacrifice. The question is whether the game is worth the candle: is it worth while to risk the loss of a little business for the sake of a somewhat fuller life for ourselves and our employees?

### Tradesmen Generally

and, I may add, pharmacists generally, all over the country think that it is; I know that many of our craft regard the apparent attitude of the Liverpool chemists with alarm and disfavour, as threatening us with the loss of what they consider a great boon. Of course the situation is complicated for us by the Insurance Act and the unreasonable action of the authorities in several cases that have occurred; but what I am discussing now is not the dispensing of prescriptions during closing hours. That is another story altogether. My point is that it would be disastrous to fight for the privilege of selling without proved urgency such things as other tradesmen who are compulsorily closed also dealt in.

### "Fit for Human Food"

is a rather curious requirement in the case of a substance like saffron, which is about one of the last things one would expect to see classified as an article of diet. It is, however, largely used in culinary operations, as a colouring and flavouring agent, particularly in Jewish families, and I understand that chemists whose business is mainly with Jews get through quite a large quantity of the drug. I have not come across much adulterated saffron in my own experience—I suppose if one pays the price the genuine article is always forthcoming—but it is stated that the flowers of *Carthamus tinctorius*, or safflower, are frequently found in the cheaper grades, while the use of an aniline dye to colour sophistications such as marigold florets is also said to exist. The so-called cake saffron is largely composed of safflower and sugar, and it is not regarded with favour by the "old wives" who recommend saffron for certain infantile ailments, though it has a considerable sale. Although *Crocus sativus* is not an indigenous plant, it has become naturalised in this country, to which it was introduced in the sixteenth century by the Secretary of State of Edward VI. It was first cultivated on a large scale at Saffron Walden, and as that borough dates back to the fifteenth century it may be presumed that the drug derived its popular name from the place where it was being grown. The plant is a native of Persia and Kashmir, but supplies of the dried stigmata come nowadays from Southern Europe, chiefly Spain and France.

### The Cultivation of Poppies

(about which one of your correspondents inquires) is, in this country, a precarious business. There is no crop more liable to injury from bad weather. I have known the fairest hopes dashed by a week's rain at the critical time, and it has occasionally happened to me that a storm of wind and rain of only a few hours' duration has done even worse damage. There is, too, but a limited demand for English poppies, which are only used for making the syrup, or sold as cap. papav. in the shops, the latter a trade that seems to diminish every year. Apparently attempts were at one time made to get opium from English poppies in quantities sufficient to be remunerative. I have often wondered, seeing how small a dose of the syrup has been said at coroners' inquests to have killed healthy babies, whether mice are immune from opium poisoning; they will live for weeks on poppy-heads and be as lively as crickets all the time. I remember on one occasion opening a bag of capsules which they had reduced almost to chaff, and out of which they rushed in such numbers that several got inside my clothes, and I was, as my man said, "fair wick wi' em." They were certainly very much alive themselves.



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## Editorial Articles.

### Sickness Benefit and Wages.

In August last there was submitted to us for opinion a legal query which raised a question of considerable importance alike to employers and employed. The query, together with our reply, appeared in our issue of August 23, and were as follows :

"Assistant, who is an insured person under the National Insurance Act, was away from business, on account of illness, for a week. He asks whether he is entitled to be paid his wages in respect of that week, in addition to the sickness benefit he received. [In the absence of any contract to the contrary, the employer is bound to pay 'Assistant' his wages for the week he was ill.]

The correctness of our view of the matter was challenged by two correspondents, whose letters we published in the following week's issue, with a short foot-note in which we stated briefly the grounds for our opinion. Within the past few weeks the question raised has been engaging the attention of a legal journal, in whose columns a brief correspondence upon the subject has culminated in an article expressing the view, coincident with our own, that

"a servant's right to wages continues, notwithstanding the receipt of sickness benefit, until the termination of the period of service" (since the Act does not expressly or impliedly interfere with that right). "A contract of service, in the absence of mutual agreement, may terminate in one of three ways—namely, by notice for the customary and contractual period, by repudiation on the part of either treated by the other as a ground for immediate rescission, and by the permanent incapacitation of the servant."

Permanent incapacity of the servant dissolves the contract, as from the incapacitation, on the ground that there is an entire failure on the part of the servant to perform his contractual obligations. On the other hand, a temporary illness does not, as a rule, terminate a contract of service, and, accordingly, if a servant falls ill, the master's liability for the payment of wages subsists until the contract has been terminated (Cuckson v. Stones, 28 L.J. Q.B. 25), and we may search the National Insurance Act in vain for words which in any way relieve the master of this liability. Apparently the only section in the Act which has any direct bearing upon the matter is Sec. 47, which provides for the making of orders by the Insurance Commissioners specifying classes of employment and localities in which there subsists a "custom or practice" for the employer to pay his servant full remuneration during periods of disease or disablement. In the case of a contract of service which falls within the ambit of existing orders, it is open to the employer to give notice to the Commissioners

in the prescribed form, whereupon reduced weekly contributions will be payable in respect of his servant; and the employer will be liable to pay his servant full remuneration during disablement for a period not exceeding in the aggregate six weeks in any one year. While he is in receipt of full remuneration from his employer, pursuant to this section, the servant will not be entitled to any sickness benefit under the Act. The section concludes with the following words:

"Nothing in this section shall relieve any employer from any legal liability to pay wages during sickness, to any person employed by him, in accordance with any established custom."

From a perusal of the section it seems clear that either the draftsman of the Act did not recognise the existence of any universal principle to the effect that wages are payable during the subsistence of all contracts of service, irrespective of local custom, or, if he recognised any such principle he did not intend that it should be in any way affected by the Act. That such a common-law principle in fact exists cannot be doubted, since it has received frequent judicial recognition. In exceptional instances the employment may be of such a nature that the incapacity of the servant by illness "goes to the root of the matter and frustrates the object of the engagement" (*Jackson v. Union Marine Insurance Co.*, 1874, L.R. 10, C.P., p. 145), and in such cases the contract of service is terminated by the servant's inability to perform his part of the contract. However, in the case of contracts of service of an ordinary nature, such as those under which shop assistants, clerks, domestic servants, and the like, are employed, a merely temporary, even though protracted, illness of the servant in no way diminishes his master's liability for the payment of wages. It therefore appears that any benefit an "employed contributor" may derive under the Act is additional to, and not in substitution for, the wages due to him from his employer. In the words of the writer of the article to which we have referred:

"What the Legislature has done is simply to compel all persons to effect a certain kind of insurance, and to use the employer as its instrument for getting this done. Now, a servant privately insured against sickness would not lose his right to wages merely because he is reaping the reward of his providence by drawing sickness benefit from his insurance company; and when he is compulsorily insured under the statute the position would seem to be exactly the same."

Hitherto the High Court has not been called upon to decide to what extent, if any, a servant's right to wages is affected by the Act; but in the Lincoln County Court in July of this year it was held that the Act does not free an employer from his liability to pay wages to a sick servant, even if the servant is unable to work and in receipt of sickness benefit (*Hoodless v. Barker*, "Law Times," July 19, p. 296). In support of the contention that full wages are not payable to a servant in receipt of sickness benefit has been adduced the decision of the High Court in the case of *Elliott v. Liggens* (1902, 2 K.B. 84). In that case the plaintiff sued for wages in respect of a period during which he had been in receipt of compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, and it was held that he was not entitled to wages in addition to compensation. In reality this decision in no way conflicts with our view that the rights to sickness benefit and to wages are cumulative, since the essence of the Workmen's Compensation Act is to provide a servant with compensation in lieu of the wages he is losing in consequence of an accident. It is therefore obvious that the acceptance of compensation is inconsistent with the right to claim wages.

Though scarcely relevant to the question under consideration, it may here be observed that Section 11 of the National Insurance Act expressly provides for the contingency of an insured person being disabled from an injury or disease in respect of which he is entitled to compensation or damages from his employer or some other person. In such a case, only so much sickness or disablement benefit will be paid to the insured person as will, with the addition of the weekly value of the compensation or damages paid to him, make up the full amount of the benefit he would have received but for this section. In conclusion we may point out two ways in which an employer may limit, or escape, his liability to pay wages to a servant in receipt of sickness or disablement benefit. He may give his servant the requisite notice terminating the contract of service; or when engaging the servant he may include in the agreement a provision that the right to wages shall cease in the event of the servant's incapacity from illness.

## October Foreign Trade.

The reaction in overseas trade which has been apparent for several months past was more pronounced in October, judging by the Board of Trade Returns. There was a slight advance in imports of 710,382*l.*, or 1 per cent., while in exports there was a decline of 1,711,283*l.*, or 3.5 per cent.; in re-exports of foreign and Colonial goods there was also a falling off of 488,580*l.*, or 4.8 per cent. The food and drink imports declined by 641,965*l.*, this being largely due to less imports of wheat by 1,218,681*l.*. Raw materials account for an increase of 1,772,875*l.*, but with barely an exception the quantities received were less, thus showing how values have risen all round. The chief feature in this section was an extraordinary increase of 1,422,738*l.* in imports of oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums. About half of this increase was due to larger receipts of linseed, cotton, rape, castor, soya beans, and other oil seeds; while the remainder is attributed to larger imports and higher prices of petroleum products and mineral oils. In articles wholly or mainly manufactured there was a slight decrease of 397,890*l.*, which chiefly affected the metal and leather industries. Our imports of chemicals and the like were 93,146*l.* more, the total being 1,219,637*l.*; the bulk of the increase was in tanning and dye stuffs, unenumerated chemicals, and unclassified items. We note an advance, however, of 41,963 oz. in quinine, the October total being 162,588 oz., and of glycerin the imports were 5,442 cwt. more. Calcium carbide, an article imported in increasing quantities, expanded by 1,597 cwt.; on the other hand, the biggest declines included bleaching materials by 1,933 cwt., brimstone by 4,682 cwt., boron compounds by 1,955 cwt., ochre by 6,044 cwt., sumach by 9,586 cwt., painters' colours and pigments by 51,000*l.*

Turning to exports, it is noticeable that practically all the decline was in manufactured goods, which fell off by 1,866,187*l.* The largest decrease was in the metal trades, but nearly every industrial product was involved. Chemicals were less by 22,090*l.* only, which must be considered satisfactory as compared with other staple trades. This decline of 22,090*l.* was on shipments amounting to 1,828,969*l.*, and was made up of dribbles on many items. The purely medicine section dropped 22,318*l.* to 198,505*l.*, quinine, however, improved by 25,860 oz. to 135,658 oz. Only 620 tons of copper sulphate were exported, or 443 tons less, and in bleaching powder the decline was 13,899*l.* Coal products, not dyes, were about maintained

at 214,949.; soda compounds did well with 114,147 cwt. increase, which was practically all in salt cake, the shipments of which were 230,215 cwt., as compared with 78,671 cwt.; soda ash, bicarbonate, caustic, and carbonate are all down. Sulphuric acid improved from 5,789 cwt. to 15,162 cwt., and painters' colours declined from 251,971 cwt. to 209,560 cwt. The export trade of the country last month was helped by an advance of 430,967l. in coal shipments, this being due to higher prices alone, as the quantity exported was almost the same. Taking the all-round character of the decline in exports, it is apparent that for the present the tide of trade is turning, but taking the figures for the ten months, there is still an increase of 25,649,977l. in manufactured goods alone, as compared with last year, and taking the comparison back two years the increase in manufactured goods is 44,672,491l.

### U S P. Revision.

THE Board of Trustees of the United States Pharmacopoeial Convention has published the first part of an "Abstract of Proposed Changes with New Standards and Descriptions" for the ninth revision of the United States Pharmacopoeia. This deals with the physical characters of the chemical substances proposed to be inserted in the next edition, and the changes appear to us to be in the direction of greater accuracy of standards and the terms in which these are expressed. It is proposed to give in the Pharmacopoeia a description of the melting-point and boiling-point apparatus and methods. A change has been made in many of the qualitative tests for purity by stating exact quantities of material and test solutions to be used, while quantities of ash permitted on incinerating organic substances are to be given in figures wherever possible. The report, which consists of forty pages, is on the lines of the reports issued in this country by the Committee on Pharmacy of the British Pharmacopoeia, and, as is the case here, comments are invited. The Chairman of the Revision Committee, Professor J. P. Remington, 1832 Pine Street, Philadelphia, is the official to whom comments on the U.S.P. proposals are to be sent. It may be added that the report referred to above was presented at the annual Convention of the American Pharmaceutical Association, and that Professor Remington stated that the changes noted had already received a majority of the votes of the members of the Committee of Revision, and that they were "out of the woods" so far as these changes were concerned. The remaining parts of the report are to deal with botany and pharmacognosy.

Since the foregoing was written we have received the "Digest of Comments on the Pharmacopoeia of the United States of America and of the National Formulary" for 1911, prepared in the Hygienic Laboratory (a Government Department) by Dr. M. G. Motter and Mr. Martin I. Wilbert. The "Digest" covers all aspects of the Pharmacopoeia as well as the therapeutic properties of the *Materia Medica*, a subject outside the scope of this and other national Pharmacopœias, except in regard to dosage. It extends to 683 pages, the first 175 of which are devoted to General Comments, and the rest to Comments on Official Articles gathered from all sources—native and foreign. These are quite up to the standard of former abstracts, which we have previously noted with appreciation. But in view of the fact that preparation of the new edition of the Pharmacopœia has reached a stage at which

the Revision Committee is able to solicit comment upon the changes which have finally been determined upon, it is obvious that the "Digest" is belated, therefore of little value to the Committee. Apparently the Government Department will not have finished its collection of criticisms applicable to the old work until the new edition has been published. This is an unhappy state of affairs, and compels us to conclude that we were wrong in supposing that the Revision Committee of the U.S.P. is peculiarly fortunate in having the assistance of a Government Department to continue the "Digest," which was formerly done at the Committee's expense. It is much to be regretted that the work is done in such a manner that it cannot be utilised for national purposes.

### "Full Up."

We learn officially that "having regard to the great pressure of detail work in connection with pharmaceutical service administration, it has been deemed expedient not to hold the December evening meeting [of the Pharmaceutical Society], which in ordinary circumstances would have taken place on December 9." The abandonment of an evening meeting is not a thing that will stop the clock, but we have difficulty in realising that the officers are so overworked that they could not have arranged by telephone for two or three gentlemen in the City to save the situation.

### Poisons Dispensed.

Mr. Graham, the Coroner at Gateshead-on-Tyne, in holding an inquest regarding a death from aconite and belladonna liniment which had been dispensed and labelled "Not to be taken," remarked that it should have been labelled "Poison" also. The chemist acted in strict accordance with Section 17 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, which specially provides that poisons dispensed shall not be labelled "Poison." We trust that this fact will be brought to Mr. Graham's notice. If chemists were to follow the dictum given by him as regards poisons dispensed they would get into much trouble.

### Asbestos as a Filtering Medium.

We call the attention of pharmaceutical manufacturers to an important paper by Drs. Coplans and Gibbs Lloyd in the "British Medical Journal," November 22, p. 1375, on the action of asbestos upon ferments, carbohydrates, proteins, alkaloids, and hormones. The experiments are detailed, and they prove that asbestos absorbs from their solutions, diastase, pepsin, milk-curdling ferment, trypsin, peptone, curare, strychnine, suprarenin, and adrenalin. Observations upon other filtering materials are also described in the paper. The time required for absorption is varied, but the purpose of the present note is to call attention to the little known fact that under certain conditions asbestos may remove the whole of the active ingredients from preparations containing the above substances. Other filtering agents (*e.g.*, fuller's earth and kaolin) have a similar effect, though in less degree.

### National Drug Fund.

Suggestions have reached us from different parts of the country that there should be established a National Drug Fund to balance, as far as possible, the difference which is now becoming apparent in the demand upon the Drug Fund in some large cities as compared with other parts of the country. The suggestion is that the surplus drug funds which will be carried over at the end of each

Insurance year, after satisfying the claims of chemists and paying the floating sixpence to doctors, should be lumped together for use in making good deficits. As usual, there are two sides to the question. One is that in a fraternal spirit chemists will not see their *confrères* lose through any fault of their own. On the other hand is the fact that such a fund would remove one of the first barriers to extravagant prescribing. Manchester, for instance, has an arrangement with panel doctors which encourages more prescribing than is usual in other industrial areas; in one district the average price per prescription is sixpence and in another it is nearer a shilling, and it is arguable that where prescriptions are filled cheaply the chemist, like the medical man, is entitled to some reward for care in conserving Medical Benefit funds. Arrangements for a bonus of this kind are already made in Scotland. Still, the greatest argument in favour of a National Drug Fund to avoid discounting is that chemists really have very little control as regards the amount of Insurance prescribing, and those who are called upon to do most work are liable to lose most. Even if it were thought possible to make arrangements for such a fund, there is the difficulty of getting the Commissioners to sanction such a scheme. They might regard this as breaking through the principle of watertight compartments which is being applied to the Insurance funds of each particular county and county borough.

## General Medical Council.

THE Council met at 199 Oxford Street, London, on Tuesday, November 25, for the winter session. Owing to the illness of the President, Sir Donald MacAlister, K.C.B., M.D., the members had an unsheltered air, wandering into the Council Chamber uncertainly without the peremptory summons of the Chairman's hammer. And though the chair was afterwards filled and the mace lay on the table, the room seemed empty without the brisk urbanity of Sir Donald, and the proceedings fell flat.

### THE PRESIDENT.

In a letter to the Registrar the President stated that he is recovering fast from the sudden and serious illness which attacked him at the end of October, but that he is not yet strong enough to be out of bed, and he therefore asked the Council to excuse him from duty in the chair. He had asked Mr. Tomes, as senior Treasurer, to take his place at the Executive Committee and at the opening of the session, and the Council would perhaps be willing to forgo the usual Presidential Address. The President added that he looked forward to a speedy resumption of his active co-operation with them. On the motion of Dr. N. Moore, seconded by Sir Wm. Morris, Mr. Tomes was voted to the chair for that afternoon, the Council's legal adviser having informed them that the Chairman would have to be formally elected each day. Mr. Tomes stated that Sir Donald had taken a keen interest in the business of the Council, and they had had the benefit of his advice. Dr. Little, on whom has fallen for many years the duty of returning thanks for the President's Address, moved the following resolution, which was agreed to:

"That this Council has received with great regret the President's letter informing them of his serious illness and of his inability to preside at the present session. The Council cannot but feel that the President's unsparing devotion to the duties of his office has contributed to break down his health. The members are rejoiced to hear that he is now making steady progress towards recovery, and they look forward with pleasure to the prospect of having their summer meeting presided over by him, to the great advantage of their proceedings and, as usual, with conspicuous credit to himself."

### MAINLY PERSONAL.

Dr. Elliot Smith, representing the University of Manchester in succession to Dr. Lorrain Smith, resigned, was then introduced to the Council by Dr. Norman Moore.

A resolution of regret at the death of Sir John Batty Tuke, expressing sympathy with the family, and the Council's desire to place on record its appreciation of the valuable services of Sir John from his election in 1887 to his retirement last year, and particularly his devoted labours as Chairman of the Education Committee, was endorsed by all those present.

The next business was the formal reception by the Council of a portrait of the late President, Sir Wm. Turner, K.C.B., sent by himself for the acceptance of the Council in memory of his long association with it. The picture, a framed photogravure engraving of a portrait by Sir Jas. Guthrie, P.R.S.A., recently presented to the University of Edinburgh, was already hung over the mantelpiece, and the Council, through the Chairman, expressed its cordial thanks for the portrait.

Another addition to the portrait gallery (for the room is already adorned with several busts and portraits of past Presidents and members) is a portrait of Lord Ilkeston, presented, through Dr. Saundby, by the Dowager Lady Ilkeston. It is some dozen years since the late Lord Ilkeston, then Sir Walter Foster, was a familiar figure in the Council. He was, said the Chairman in expressing the thanks of the Council to Lady Ilkeston, one of the first representatives of the general practitioners, and one of the ablest.

### RESTORATIONS TO THE REGISTERS.

The Council then went into camera, on emerging from which the Chairman stated that the names of James Wm. Skelley and James Forrest had been restored to the Medical Register, and the names of Frederick Ellis and Edward Joseph Regan to the Dental Register.

The report of the Education Committee was received and entered, and the Council, finding that they had no more work to do that day, adjourned at twenty minutes to four.

### Wednesday's Proceedings.

Mr. Tomes was again voted to the chair on Wednesday afternoon. He stated that Sir C. Nixon, prevented by illness from being present, is making satisfactory progress.

The penal business opened with the further consideration of the case of Mr. Alfred Benson, M.R.C.S., of Maida Vale, postponed from last session. Mr. Benson had been convicted of and fined 50*l.* for having signed untrue passport certificates, and was warned by the Council last May of the gravity of his offence. Mr. Benson reappeared and put in a testimony as to his irreproachable character during the last six months, written by a clerical neighbour and an old friend. The Council quickly decided that they did not see fit to remove Mr. Benson's name from the Medical Register.

Practically the whole of the afternoon was taken up with the case of James Morrison Orr, M.D., of Beulah Grove, West Croydon, summoned to appear before the Council on the charge of having "knowingly associated in practice with an unqualified and unregistered person—namely, one Horatio Franklyn Sparling—and have knowingly authorised or allowed the said Horatio Franklyn Sparling to exhibit a plate at 30 Northcote Road, West Croydon, with the inscription 'Dr. H. F. Sparling' thereon above a plate bearing your name, and have thereby enabled the said Horatio Franklyn Sparling to attend and treat patients as if he were duly qualified and registered."

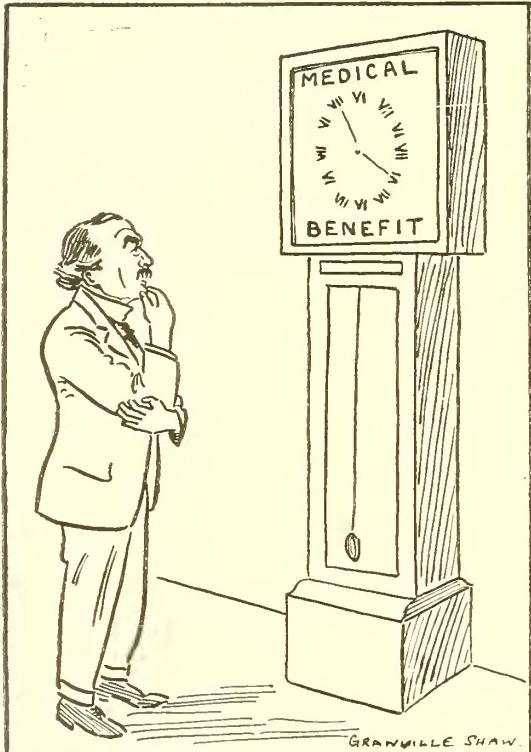
The complainants were the Medical Defence Union. Mr. Orr was accompanied by his solicitor, Mr. Martin. The examination of the chief persons concerned was protracted to a wearisome length, and although three hours were spent in evidence and argument, the Council were only three minutes in *camera*, the result being that the name of James Morrison Orr is to be erased from the Medical Register.

The session is proceeding.

## National Health Insurance.

**Administration of Medical Benefit as regards Chemists' Interests.**

### Medical Benefit Illustrated.



GRANVILLE SHAW

"I had no idea it would require such a lot of regulating—seems to be all sixes and sevens."

### "One Tariff—One Pharmacopoeia."

BY AN OFFICIAL CHECKER (20/23).

The Tariff and its revision have recently been the prominent features in pharmaceutical circles, and doubtless it has occurred to many that a National Tariff is desirable. It is possible that the Commissioners have been unwisely lenient in permitting Insurance Committees to construct their own tariffs, as they are entitled to do, the variation in local conditions not being great enough to justify such a concession, such variation being capable of ready and equitable adjustment if attempted without prejudice.

The objections to varied tariffs are many and sound. For illustration take the case of one of the larger counties containing, say, a dozen county boroughs, each having a tariff varying more or less from the County Tariff. The chemists on the borough panels are also on the county panel, and in some cases on the panels of more than one borough and county. The chemist makes up his account for one borough from one tariff, and from two or more where panels overlap. The county account is made up from the County Tariff, but it frequently happens that borough tariffs are used for county accounts, and *vice versa*. If the tariffs varied only in price the result would be sufficiently troublesome, but when it is remembered that the Regulations controlling the supply of appliances, serums, disinfectants, proprietaries, copying-fees, emergency-fees, water-charges, local formularies, etc., also vary very considerably, then it is only, say, a county checker who really understands what a hideous tangle can be produced. The more closely this question is examined, the more certain is conversion to the "One Tariff" idea.

On the question of an Insurance Pharmacopœia different opinions exist. The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society adopted a resolution on August 6 deprecating the use of local formularies, considering the use of stock mixtures

inimical to the efficiency of the medicine supply to insured persons. On September 10 followed a circular reiterating the above, and stating that

"the use of stock mixtures and formularies is a continuation of the 'parochial' system, which it was the object of the Insurance Act to supersede. That it degraded medicine and reduced the practice of pharmacy to the level of the sale of goods, a system under which no dispensing-fees could be justified. It was not what the public was promised or expected."

This is pure idealism such as the Society has often propounded but seldom attained, and some wavering of this ethically correct attitude is shown in a later paragraph of the same report, in which it admits that "in some cases it is impossible to resist the demand for 'stock' preparations." Notwithstanding this official pronouncement, almost every county area and county borough have adopted formularies, ranging from a manuscript sheet of half a dozen mixtures to morocco-bound "Pharmacopeias" of 150 items.

"Xrayser" in the *C. & D.* of September 15 said: "Local formulae are in use everywhere," also that the Middlesex Association had discovered great disadvantages (overlapping?) which would be remedied by a National Formulary. There is abundant evidence of the demand for stock mixtures, and when the obvious convenience to the prescriber, and economy in time, labour, and cost to the dispenser are considered, this is not surprising.

In industrial towns many doctors have over 3,000 patients, and from figures published by the Manchester Association it is probable that the number of scripts per patient per year will be over six. Most of the work being done in two hours each evening, the time taken for examination, diagnosis, and prescribing must be reduced to the minimum, and the difference between writing a short title and writing out a prescription in full detail just makes the work possible.

From an examination of over a million scripts in a large county of over twenty-four areas and fourteen boroughs, it is apparent that the bulk of the prescribing is along well-marked lines. In each of the areas the scripts for certain ailments show great similarity, the ingredients and dosage varying so little that the adoption of a standard formula presents no difficulty. For instance, take *misturæ alba, astringens, bismuth* (four kinds), *camph. co., ferri am. cit., ferri aperiens, rhei c. soda, senegæ ammon., hepatic., tussi rub., terpin. hyd., quinin. hydrobrom., salicyl., rubra*, and a few others which will readily occur to anyone doing Insurance work. These are in such frequent use, and vary so little in essentials, that formulae could easily be devised that would be acceptable throughout the county, and doubtless the country also.

The frequency with which a busy doctor prescribes some of the above mixtures is amazing, some being his pet formulae, well tried, and their effects certain and dependable, and in the ante-Insurance period bought ready made in concentrated form, and used in enormous quantities. Can it be reasonably expected that he will write each prescription out in full each time?

Some doctors object to a Pharmacopœia on the ground that their prescribing would be restricted to its limits; and some chemists object to it on the ground that the price would be cut down to a profitless basis, and also that they would be expected to stock all the mixtures. These objections are supposititious, and have no real weight.

In compiling a County Formulary, perhaps the simplest method would be for each local Association, or, better still, the new Pharmaceutical Committees now in course of formation, to ascertain and select, say, not more than twenty of the formulae most frequently used in that area or borough, and having numbered them in order of importance forward them to the County Pharmaceutical Committee, who would classify them, putting all the *mist. rhei c. soda* together, all the *mist. senegæ ammon.* together, and so on; then, having noticed the difference in ingredients and dosage, proceed to construct a standard formula which in essentials would be a typical mixture. These would be compiled and referred to the Medical Committee for approval, after which they would be priced

by the Pharmaceutical Committee and submitted to the County Insurance Committee for approval and adoption. After publication, the cost of which would possibly be borne by the Insurance Committee, local Pharmaceutical Committees would arrange with local Medical Committees which formulæ should be adopted for use in that area; a selection of, say, twenty as a maximum should be sufficient to satisfy the doctors. These would be prescribed by short titles, and the rest, if used, to be written *in extenso*.

This in practice would prove vastly convenient and economical to both chemists and doctors, and would always be capable of revision and amplification.

#### Scottish Medical Benefit Regulations.

The Scottish Commissioners have issued the revised Medical Benefit Regulations applicable to Scotland. These are the same as the English Regulations as printed in the *C. & D.*, November 15, but there is an important difference in Regulation 12 referring to arrangements for supply by practitioners of drugs and appliances, which in the Scottish Regulations is as follows :

12.—(1) Where an insured person is resident in a rural area at a distance of more than one mile from the place of business of the nearest chemist supplying drugs or appliances the Committee, with the consent of the Commissioners and after consultation with the Panel Committee and the Pharmaceutical Committee, may, and where the Committee are satisfied that an insured person for any other reason will have difficulty in obtaining any necessary drugs or appliances from a chemist supplying drugs or appliances, shall, if the practitioners so desire, make arrangements for the supply to that person by the practitioner attending him of such drugs and appliances as would otherwise under these Regulations be supplied by the person supplying drugs or appliances, and any question arising under this Regulation shall be referred to the Commissioners, whose decision shall be final.

(2) Arrangements made by the Committee for the supply of drugs and appliances to an insured person by a practitioner shall not be determined during the year in respect of which they are made by reason of the fact that in the course of that year a chemist who carries on business within such a distance from the residence of the insured person as would have precluded arrangements being made with the practitioner for the supply of drugs or appliances *under the first paragraph of this Regulation* is included in the list of persons supplying drugs or appliances, or that chemist on the list of persons supplying drugs or appliances commences to carry on business within such a distance.

We have italicised passages which do not occur in the English Regulation. The effect of these differences is to give panel chemists in Scotland a measure of control in respect to dispensing by doctors in rural areas, which they do not at present possess. It is also provided in Regulation 38 that where arrangements are made with a doctor under Regulation 12, and it is proposed that payment therefor be made on a capitation basis, the consent of the Commissioners must be obtained. This also is a distinct gain to chemists.

#### Dispensing Agreements in Scotland.

Form Med. 23 (Scotland) is the "chemist's" agreement and Form Med. 25 (Scotland) the "contractor's" agreement with the Insurance Committee. These differ but little from those in England and Wales, except in further elucidating one or two points. Thus paragraph 2 has a new section, as follows :

(ii) The chemist may with consent of the Committee, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, alter the place or places of business; and he may, with consent of the Committee, reduce or increase the number of such places.

This might with advantage be inserted in the English and Welsh agreements. The Second Schedule contains also the following new paragraphs :

(II) The drugs and medical and surgical appliances which shall be kept in stock by the chemist, and the prices fixed therefor, including a scale of dispensing-fees, shall be as set forth in the Drug Tariff, as authenticated by the seal of the Committee and the signature of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman, and the signature of the Chairman or Clerk of the Pharmaceutical Committee, and deposited with the Clerk to the Committee.

(III) The method of calculating the price of drugs not included in the said Drug Tariff shall be as follows :

These, no doubt, are due to there being one official drug tariff for the whole of Scotland.

We published last week (index folio 777) a resolution come to by the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee (Scotland). We have since received a fuller report of the meeting over which Mr. J. P. Gilmour presided, and we subjoin it :

The Chairman explained that it had been necessary to convene the Committee at short notice to deal with the position of matters arising out of the negotiations with the Insurance Commissioners subsequent to the mass meeting of panel chemists on October 31. The report of the Sub-Committee on Drug Tariff and Adjustment of Details was read, from which it appeared that at a meeting on November 11 the Sub-Committee had considered the reply received from the Commissioners to the letter addressed to them on behalf of panel chemists on October 1. Immediately on receipt of the foregoing letter the Secretary had seen the Commissioners in order to clear up the evident doubt as to whether the Commissioners intend to adjust prices of drugs and appliances at the present time, or whether this also is intended to be left over to the full adjustment after inquiry in the first quarter of 1914. A second meeting of the Sub-Committee was held on November 18, at which it was reported that the Commissioners had replied that the meaning of the letter of November 10 was that chemists are asked to delay all adjustment of the Drug Tariff and dispensing-fees till after the inquiry which the Commissioners had promised to complete in the first quarter of 1914, and that meantime the existing basis of agreement as fixed in April 1913 be continued. It had been very strongly represented to the Commissioners that chemists generally had understood that, while the larger question of dispensing-fees might require to be delayed, there would not be any difficulty in the smaller question of adjustment of prices being finished now, to come into operation on January 12, 1914. The Commissioners, however, made it quite clear that they had never so understood the situation, and that they adhered to the views stated in their letter of March 29, 1913. The Sub-Committee was unanimously of opinion that this situation is more than a detail, in view of the resolution adopted by the mass meeting on October 31, and the Chairman had therefore been instructed to convene an emergency meeting of the whole Committee, so that the action to be taken should immediately be considered and determined in view of the short time remaining for making arrangements for 1914, and the numerous applications from chemists as well as from Insurance Committees to know how matters stood and what course they were to follow. The view of the Sub-Committee was that the proposal to grant a second option at the end of the second quarter of the ensuing medical year makes no practical difference to the first proposal of a single option of breaking the contract at the end of the first quarter, and that, indeed, there might be certain practical advantages in agreeing to the suggestion of the Commissioners on that point.

The whole situation was very fully considered, and in the discussion some members expressed serious doubts as to the second option for a break at the end of the second quarter, on the ground that this might lead to dilatory procedure on the part of the Commissioners. It was pointed out, however, that the very explicit terms of the letter from the Commissioners pledged them as far as any responsible body could be pledged to complete the inquiry and confer with the chemists before the end of the first quarter. Three members of Committee, however, still adhered to their doubt, but the Committee ultimately adopted the resolution printed in our issue of November 22.

It was remitted to the Chairman and Secretary to frame an explanatory statement on the present position of matters and the course recommended for future action, to be issued to panel chemists in Scotland. The new Medical Benefit Regulations and relative explanatory statement and copies of the model form for agreements for the supply of drugs and appliances under the Insurance Act were submitted to the Committee, and the various points of special interest were indicated. A letter from the Insurance Commissioners was submitted asking the co-operation of the Standing Committee in arranging suitable dates, times, and places for the election of the new Pharmaceutical Committees. It was agreed to co-operate.

THE trend of Panel Committees as regards administration expenses is shown in the application of the Dorset Medical Committee for a deduction of  $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per insured person per annum to be made by the Insurance Committee next year from every doctor's account for the expenses of the Committee. This is to pay all the secretaries' travelling expenses and the Committee's expenses to meetings at a rate not exceeding  $3d.$  per mile.

### Medical Benefit Administration.

*With special reference to the supply of medicines and appliances. See also Winter Session.*

**Barnsley.**—The revised Tariff has been accepted by the Borough Insurance Committee.

**Derbyshire.**—At a meeting of the Insurance Committee on November 24 the matter of the Chesterfield Medical Aid Association again came up. The Association had, in reply to the complaint of the chemists of the town, stated that their dispenser is a qualified man. Mr. C. W. Ridyard, Secretary of the County Pharmaceutical Association, now denied that that body had made an unfair attack upon the individual in question, and contended that they suffered under a gross injustice. The Act clearly specified that the work of dispensing should be given to chemists who are qualified under the Pharmacy Acts, and he claimed that the Medical Aid Association cannot be so described. They are in the position of a firm of doctors, and as such have no right to dispense prescriptions for insured persons within a mile of a chemist on the panel. The Chesterfield chemists had faithfully carried out their contracts, and had fulfilled their guarantee that the dispensing should be done by or under the supervision of registered pharmacists. He warned the Committee that when they came to make a fresh contract they would have to face the fact that the present arrangement could not be continued. The chemists of the country considered that they had been unjustly treated. Mr. E. F. Hind, Chairman of the Medical Aid Association, contended that under the Harnsworth Amendment such an organisation is allowed to contract as a dispenser. All the Committee has to do is to see that the dispensing is done in accordance with the Act and Regulations. He also defended the qualification of the Association's dispenser, and concluded with the remark that it is the success of the Association that is troubling Mr. Ridyard and his friends. The Medical Benefit Sub-Committee was requested to take the matter into consideration when making agreements with the doctors and chemists for next year. The old terms are to be renewed as regards Insurance medicines.—Mr. R. Wright (Buxton) presided at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Derbyshire Pharmaceutical Association held at Derby on November 19. The latest Drug Tariff was adopted, subject to the inclusion of other arrangements existing in the county. Other matters were dealt with, and the annual general meeting of the Association was fixed for Wednesday, December 10, without a dinner, as Insurance dispensing necessitates the early return of members.

**Dunbartonshire.**—Mr. Patrick Mitchell presided at a meeting held in Glasgow on November 19. Discussion took place regarding the present position of pharmacists under the Insurance Act. Opinion was freely expressed that Mr. Leishman should be held to his promise "to prepare figures and make all necessary arrangements before April 1914"; that any further extension is unnecessary; and that the Standing Committee be asked to oppose any such concession. The following resolution was carried:

"That the Secretary write to the County Insurance Clerk with reference to Sections 38 and 39 (b) of the new Medical Benefit Regulations, and ask that doctors at present supplying drugs and appliances—*per capita*—should in future render an account for goods supplied, and be paid in the same manner, and on the same terms, as chemists." It was decided that as soon as the new Pharmaceutical Committees are elected the name of the present organisation should be "The Dunbartonshire Executive," remaining, as it now is, an Executive of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Association, in order to combine all qualified chemists in business within the county. Mr. Hart (President) and Mr. Kitchin (Secretary), of the Glasgow Association, were present, and approved of the new arrangements and the new title. The following office-bearers were then elected: *Chairman*, Mr. Thos. Guthrie (Clydebank); *Vice-Chairman*, Mr. P. Mitchell (Dumbarton); and *Secretary*, Mr. John Weir (Clydebank). These to form an Emergency Committee, with power to add to their numbers.

**Essex.**—We understand that nearly every member of the Essex Pharmacists' Association was present at a meeting held in London on Tuesday, November 25. The discussion was centred around the formation of the new Pharmaceutical Insurance Committee. Some consternation has been caused by the action of the chemists in the Metropolitan area having put forth a list of names, excluding representation for important towns, such as Colchester, Chelmsford, Clacton, Harwich, Dovercourt, Brightlingsea, Halstead, and Maldon. It is in the rural areas where the medical "die-hards" are mostly found, and where real grievances exist: as, for instance, the abuse of the mile-limit. We understand that some twenty-five nominations have been received for the

sixteen seats. These include the three nominees of the drug companies. An election is inevitable. It is hoped that for the remaining thirteen seats available for the individual pharmacists a good proportion of country members may be elected. Essex is one of the few counties in which the Medical Sub-Committee has not yet approved of the new Tariff. A new list of nominees recommended by the County Association is likely to be published.

**Grimsby.**—At a meeting of the Insurance Committee on November 20 a letter from the Insurance Commissioners was read, stating that payments to individual doctors and chemists should be recorded in the minutes, and should not be made known to the public or to the Press.

**Halifax.**—There has been some correspondence in the local Press regarding a medical man supplying medicine to a patient who "complained to him regarding the quality of the medicine supplied by the chemist, and he admitted himself it was not right." The patient later received a bill for 22s., but a lady member of the Insurance Committee advised her not to pay, but to report the circumstances to the Insurance Committee. "The Lancet" (November 22, p. 1509) points out that medical men should make the patient clearly understand that if the practice sanctioned by the Act is departed from at the patient's request, it must also be at his expense. [This is not the whole substance of the matter, as it places the chemist under a stigma which may be just or unjust. In the former case, the bill is recoverable from the chemist; in the latter, the pharmacist's status suffers a double injustice from the panel doctor, who benefits by his own actions. This is the kind of complaint that rendered necessary the institution of Pharmaceutical Service Sub-Committees.—EDITOR, *C. & D.*]

**Kesteven (Lincs).**—Chemists are to be paid the full amount of the accounts for the month ended July 14 as checked, and 80 per cent. of the amounts claimed for the two months ended September 14.

**Kilmarnock.**—At a meeting of the Burgh Insurance Committee last week it was reported that 12,211 prescriptions had been dispensed by chemists. For the first quarter of the year the average cost was 5*farthing*, for the second quarter 6*farthing*, and for the third quarter 6.28*d.* The cost per insured person for medicines up to October 13 came to 5.9*d.*, so that if the same rate is maintained during the remainder of the year the rate for the whole year should be about 8*d.* per insured person. Some doubt as to the actual figures was expressed, Dr. John Robertson saying he did not understand them. The Medical Sub-Committee had been informed that for the first quarter the druggists' account was 10*d.* per insured person, now the clerk said the estimate would be 10*d.* per annum. The Provost concluded that in any case the amount "is sure to be under the shilling," and the doctors are safe as to the floating sixpence. [From these figures it appears that up to October 13 the amount spent on medicines is 1*s.* 5*farthing* per insured person, and at the same rate for the current quarter there will be little left in the Drug Fund. Sixpence a quarter means 2*s.* a year.—EDITOR, *C. & D.*]

**Liverpool.**—Chemists have received their agreements for 1914 to sign. The recent prosecutions have resulted in the overhauling of their stocks of bottled cod-liver oil emulsion and of tins of malt and oil, to make sure that these contain the proper quantity. It has been officially decided that next year, when emuls. ol. morrh. is ordered, the 50-per-cent. strength be supplied. The following nominees have been made for election to the local Pharmaceutical Committee: J. Bain, A. S. Barr, W. H. Clubb, W. Dickinson, D. H. Evans, J. L. Hirst, M. S. Hughes, C. E. Jones, G. V. C. Last, P. H. Marsden, R. E. Lloyd, L. M. Parry, C. Symes, G. R. Tharratt, and J. G. Wallbridge. These fifteen gentlemen constituted the previous Pharmaceutical Committee, and as it will have twelve members in future it will be necessary for three to "stand down."

**London.**—There is every probability of a ballot for election of the local Pharmaceutical Committee, three unqualified persons having been nominated. An attempt was made to secure five nominations. The Insurance Committee on November 27 passed for payment chemists' accounts for 22,887*l.* The chemists' list on October 31 contained the names of 804 persons and thirty-four institutions, the additions during the quarter being twenty-two persons and four institutions, and the removals nine persons and one institution. Analysis of 471 cases referred to the six part-time medical referees showed that 208 were capable and 167 incapable of work. Seventy-six more withdrew, and twenty are in suspense. The General Purposes Sub-Committee reported *inter alia*:

Of the 208 insured persons who were reported by the medical referees as "capable" of work, 30 per cent. were originally furnished with certificates for debility, anaemia, weakness, etc., and 15 per cent. with certificates for rheumatism and dyspepsia.

The reports do not show that any high percentage of these "capable" cases are "malingering," in the generally accepted sense of the word, but that low vitality, lack of nourishment, and mental inertia are predisposing causes of "invalidism," and that, although these persons cannot be regarded as physically fit, they cannot be certified as "incapable of work." The few cases of obvious malingering which have been discovered have generally been in respect of insured persons in receipt of low wages, etc.

The number of cases in which incapacity is to some extent traceable to defective teeth is remarkable, and especially in the cases of insured persons suffering from rheumatism and dyspepsia. There is no doubt that sickness generally of insured persons would be diminished by the extension of Medical Benefit to dental treatment and the addition to the Drug Tariff of such appliances as trusses and elastic stockings.

During the discussion of this recommendation instances were given where the use of belts, or the supply of spectacles, relieved the sickness after claims had been paid for some months. The Committee sanctioned the extension of the medical referee scheme for a further three months, the approved society paying 2s. 6d. for each examination. The Medical Benefit Sub-Committee in its report acknowledges indebtedness to the County of London Pharmacists' Association for information as to the value of drugs supplied as part of Sanatorium Benefit, which enabled the resolution to be made for charging these to the proper account. The Medical Benefit (Special Section) Sub-Committee reported having carefully considered the suggested alterations and additions to the 1914 Drug Tariff, and recommend its approval. This was adopted, with final additions of Brompton hospital lozenges; linseed, liquorice, and chlorodyne lozenges; and sulphur lozenges. The 140,000*l.* accumulated owing to many insured persons not choosing their panel doctor is to be distributed among practitioners on the list. This is due to the fact that the Commissioners intend to issue an amending regulation to this effect.

**Merthyr Tydfil.**—At the last meeting of the Insurance Committee a letter was received from the local Pharmacists' Association stating that they could not return the chemists' accounts, which they revise as quickly as desired. It was agreed to pay 75 per cent. of the accounts, the balance to be paid when the checking is complete. It was remarked by the Secretary that chemists had not been paid anything for the last quarter.

**Middlesbrough.**—Chemists' accounts for the first three quarters amounted to 1,741*l.*, or 142*l.* less than the estimate. It has not been necessary to transfer to the Drug Fund anything from the Drug Suspense Fund.

**Norfolk.**—The Insurance Committee considers the estimated expenditure of 1s. 3d. per insured person on drugs and appliances to be high.

**Pembrokeshire.**—The revised Tariff has been approved by the Insurance Committee, subject to the addition of the words "only when specially prescribed" to the paragraph relating to "Aqua." Payments to chemists for the quarter amounted to 289. 8s., being 75 per cent. of the accounts. The Finance Sub-Committee have been given power to draw cheques for the remainder when checking is complete.

**Reading.**—15,732 Insurance prescriptions were dispensed by panel chemists last quarter. Four of the thirty-one medical practitioners on the panel dispense their own medicines.

**Sheffield.**—A joint conference of the representatives of the Insurance Committee, medical men, and chemists was held at the Town Hall on November 24, when the final arrangements were made for the 1914 Drug Tariff. The agreements are to be sent out at once. A few local chemists do not seem quite clear in regard to the agreements between doctors and chemists regarding the prescribing of proprietary articles. No proprietary preparation will be paid for, whether prescribed in bulk or as a component part of a prescription. Mr. J. T. Appleton (of Walkley and Hillsborough) was accepted as a candidate at the Leeds West Riding meeting for a seat on the West Riding Pharmaceutical Committee to represent the district around Sheffield. Messrs. H. Antcliffe (Sheffield), Renney (Stocksbridge), and Matthews (Hoyland) withdrew in order to avoid an election if possible.—Fourteen persons have been nominated to serve on the Pharmaceutical Insurance Committee. Unless two names are withdrawn an election will have to take place. It is hoped that pharmacists will refrain from voting until they hear from Mr. Culverhouse, Secretary of the present Committee.

**Soke of Peterborough.**—Out of sixteen medical practitioners on the panel ten have 1,822 patients for whom they dispense. Of 9,338 persons on the register, 1,431 have their dispensing done at the Peterborough Medical Institute and thirty-one make their own arrangements or are deposit contributors.

**Staffordshire.**—The doctors are asking a flat rate of 6d. for emergency dispensing.

**Sussex.**—The Drug Tariff Sub-Committee of the East Sussex local Medical Committee, after considering the revised Tariff, has concluded that the increased prices mainly apply to those not frequently ordered, and the reduction in such articles as tablets counterbalances these. The Sub-Committee is preparing for circulation to panel practitioners a list of trade-marked drugs which have non-proprietary equivalents.

**Swansea.**—At a joint meeting of the local doctors, chemists, and Insurance Committee, the chemists intimated that they would not sign new agreements until the 1914 Tariff was accepted by the Committee. The Insurance Committee were prepared to do so, provided the doctors agreed. After discussion the doctors agreed to the Tariff, with the modification that where "Aq." is ordered on a prescription, "Aq. fontana" should be dispensed, and when "Aq. dest." is required it should be specifically ordered. Doctors and chemists agreed that the practice of writing "Rep. mist." should be abolished.

**West Bromwich.**—At a meeting of panel chemists held at Mr. Withers' (Bullus & Co., Ltd.) on November 23 to consider the 1914 agreements, Mr. Withers was voted to the chair. Messrs. Edgson, Osborne, and Kemsey-Bourne were appointed a deputation to meet the Medical Benefit Sub-Committee to make the final arrangements. The deputation was requested to get the following questions settled:

Urgent prescriptions (to be properly endorsed). Abnormal rise or fall in prices of Tariff drugs, etc., during the year. Rep. mist. Doctors recommending special chemists. Certain alterations in next prescription forms. Payment of accounts. Checking prescriptions.

Mr. Withers was cordially thanked for his hospitality and conduct of the meeting.

**West Hartlepool.**—At the meeting on November 19, Dr. Gray, in replying to a complaint about the average cost per prescription increasing and endangering the whole of the available 2s., said the matter is receiving the attention of the Medical and Pharmaceutical Committees, and it is hoped to materially reduce the cost of these. The number of prescriptions in the October quarter was 14,877, value 493*l.* 4s. 9d., being 7.96*d.* per prescription, or 5.67*d.* per insured person. Payments of 443*l.* 18s. 5*d.* to chemists were passed.

## WINTER SESSION

### of Meetings of Trade Associations.

Others are reported under "National Health Insurance" when the subjects pertain chiefly to that Section.

**District Meeting at Poole.**—The fourth meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society's district series took place at Poole on Wednesday evening, November 19, under the chairmanship of Mr. F. E. Bilson (Bournemouth), who was officially supported by Mr. C. B. Allen and Mr. Woolcock (Secretary). There was an excellent attendance of pharmacists from Blandford, Boscombe, Bournemouth, Bridport, Christ church, Dorchester, Lymington, Parkstone, Poole, Portland, Shaftesbury, Sherborne, Wareham, Weymouth, Wimborne, and Winton. Mr. Allen dealt at considerable length with the difficulties encountered by the Council during the past few years, and explained in detail many of the steps taken in the interests of pharmacists in connection with the Poisons and Pharmacy Act and the Insurance Act. He deduced from these occurrences the fact that the Society and its officers were valuable assets to pharmacy, and the moral that every pharmacist was bound to become a member. Mr. Woolcock then gave an outline of the position brought about by the new Medical Benefit Regulations, together with advice as to the wisest plan of local procedure. He also spoke of the services rendered to their brother pharmacists by Mr. Groves, of Blandford, and Mr. J. W. Cussons, of Dorchester, and thought that some of the registered men in county areas did not sufficiently realise their indebtedness to those who fought their battles. Some questions having been asked and answered, Mr. Groves (Blandford) proposed, and Mr. Ayre (Poole) seconded, "That this meeting of chemists of the Dorsetshire area request the Council of the Society to undertake the work of federating the local committees with the Society, being of opinion that it is the proper body to do the work." The proposition was carried unanimously. Besides formal votes of thanks, it was resolved to send a letter of thanks to Mr. J. W. Cussons (Secretary of the County Association) for the services he has rendered during the past year. Mr. C. J. Reid (Bournemouth) acted as clerk of the meeting.

**Cardiff.**—A meeting of the Cardiff Pharmacists' Association was held at the Angel Hotel on November 26, under the presidency of Mr. G. Thomson Williams. There was a good attendance. A vote of condolence was passed with the widow and family of the late Mr. Furnivall, an old member of the Association. The Secretary stated that the Association was represented at the funeral. The annual report recorded the chief events of the year, mainly in regard to Insurance matters. It was unanimously adopted. The draft agreement between the Welsh Insurance Commissioners and the panel chemists was read, and finally approved. Correspondence was read with Boots, Ltd., and the Secretary, in which the former objected to the fact that the owner of a single shop had been nominated to represent corporate bodies on the Insurance Committee. It was explained that Boots's representatives were invited to attend the meeting, but failed to do so, and in their absence an old member of the Association, who had carried on business as a corporate company, had been appointed. Some discussion ensued, in which the two representatives of Boots, Ltd., took part. It was decided eventually to leave the matter to the Pharmaceutical Committee, the Association to recommend one of Boots's managers to the position. A letter was read from Mr. W. T. Thomas, the Secretary of the Swansea District Association, asking for support for the candidature of Mrs. S. Roberts to the Benevolent Fund. Mr. J. D. Jenkins stated that a dozen of their members had pledged themselves to put aside a penny a day for the Benevolent Fund, and this would give them a considerable number of votes. The Secretary reported that he had received a visit from Miss M. B. Strachan, M.A., on behalf of the Labour Exchange, on the question of apprentices, and she had promised to help the Association in every way to introduce to them suitable pupils as apprentices. It was agreed to thank Miss Strachan for her proposals, and to co-operate with her in every way. It was decided that the annual dinner should be held in January. A pleasing function was the presentation to Mr. J. D. Jenkins, the Commercial Secretary of the Association, of a silverplated tea and coffee service on the occasion of his marriage. The presentation was made by the President, and Mr. Jenkins briefly responded.

**Dundee.**—Mr. A. Soutar presided at a meeting of the C. A. and A. Association in Mathier's Hotel on November 21, when Mr. W. B. Cowie, Ph.C., F.C.S., gave an address on *Pharmaceutical Education*. After deprecating the optionising of Latin in the First examination, Mr. Cowie gave a résumé of the progress which the apprentice could reasonably expect to make during apprenticeship, laying special emphasis upon the fact that it would be of immense value to master, assistant, and apprentice to have an examination instituted in purely mechanical pharmacy at the termination of apprenticeship; it would prevent the apprentice allowing his mind to lie fallow during the most receptive period of his life, and he would be in a better position to make further efforts in studying the science subjects. Mr. Cowie stated that many of the failures among pharmacy candidates are due to: (a) Absence of training in mechanical pharmacy during apprenticeship; (b) want of proper guidance in the study of elementary science subjects; and (c) lack of enthusiasm. The student who possesses a practical training in the subjects required in the practice of pharmacy has no difficulty in negotiating the Minor examination; but the student who is always afraid of doing too much work, and continually consults the official syllabus, always has difficulty, because it is impossible for anyone to obtain a practical foundation except by studying each subject for the sake of understanding it. He recommended students to take the subjects in the following order: (1) Elementary physics—heat, light, magnetism and electricity; (2) elementary inorganic chemistry; (3) elementary botany; (4) elementary organic chemistry; (5) materia medica; and (6) pharmacy. He deprecated students committing subjects to memory, and advised them to reason out all details step by step until the subject is understood. The crammed man sooner or later occupies a position inferior to the well-trained man, and invariably becomes a mere distributor of ready-made medicines. Mr. Cowie gave some practical demonstrations, and was cordially thanked.

**Ealing.**—The inaugural meeting of the Ealing Pharmacists' Association was held on November 20, Mr. E. F. Strickland (President) presiding over a representative gathering of about fifty persons. Mr. J. F. Harrington, the first speaker, discoursed upon the utility of the local Associations, the powers they have obtained, and how they have gained recognition within the portals of 17 Bloomsbury Square. He was present, he said, as a pharmaceutical councillor as well as a Vice-President of the Association, and he was prepared to listen to the views expressed, and convey them to the Council for its deliberation. Mr. J. T. Humphrey dealt in detail with the suggested scheme for the future constitu-

tion of the Middlesex County Pharmaceutical Association. The Ealing Association has decided to adopt the scheme, and so become a branch of the County Association. To a certain extent this was supported by Mr. J. Noble in a subsequent speech, in the course of which he pointed out that all the resolutions and aspirations of the various Associations must of necessity be rendered futile without the existence of some central body. Mr. Herbert Skinner addressed the meeting on ways and means and probable results of organising pharmacists, speaking from his experiences in connection with the North London Pharmacists' Association. Mr. Hugo Wolff wound up the proceedings with a dissertation in humorous vein on trade matters. Votes of thanks concluded the proceedings.

**Institute of Ophthalmic Opticians.**—A meeting was held in the Lecture Theatre of the Royal Society of Arts, Adelphi, London, W.C., on November 20. Mr. A. Upson (Maidenhead) was in the chair, and briefly introduced Mr. H. R. Fairbanks, who delivered a lecture on *Bifocals*. A bifocal lens was first defined as a spectacle lens with two sights, one for distant vision and the other for objects nearer than infinity. It is a lens suitable for distance vision, to which is added a certain *plus* element. In making this addition the focal values of the lens for distant vision play a very important part. The lecturer termed the lens for distant vision the "primary" lens, and proceeded to discuss the question of optical values. The primary lens may be (1) convex, (2) concave, (3) have a cylindrical element, when it is necessary to ascertain whether it be convex or concave and the position of the axis; (4) the right and left primary lens may be of unequal power. Prismatic effect in lenses and cylinders was next considered, the conclusion being that it is the vertical plane of a spectacle lens that needs chief consideration in a bifocal. Dr. Tschering states that the reading portion should be 6 mm. below the geometrical centre. The importance of correct centering was urged, and bifocals should be fitted as close as possible to the cornea. The best position for the margin of the reading segment is generally 1.5 mm. below the geometrical centre, which gives the eyes 10° of view below the optical centre of the primary lens. The lecturer then considered the varieties of lenses available. The two species are the up curve and the down curve, the latter being the ordinary form. The kinds of down-curve bifocals are (1) the Franklin, (2) the "Perfection," (3) cements, (4) fused, such as "Kryptok" and "Unita," (5) solid unibifocals, (6) "Luxe," and (7) "Demi-luxe." The Franklin consists of the upper half of a distance lens and the lower half of a reading lens fitted in a spectacle frame, the lower half being slightly angled inwards. The ground edge at the junction is objectionable. The "Perfection" is similar, except that the lower lens is crescent-shaped. In the cemented bifocal a small thin segment of glass, on which is worked the *plus* element for reading, is cemented to the "primary" lens. The ridge which exists collects dust, and the Canada balsam used as a cement causes trouble. The fused bifocal, or "Borsch," obtains the *plus* element by fusing a strongly curved lens of high refractive index into the primary lens of much lower refractive index. Borsch cemented a flint-glass lens between two crown lenses, thus protecting the softer glass. The lens is necessarily very expensive. The fused forms have one side of the glass of higher refractive index exposed, the surfaces are flush and scarcely noticeable by the observer. Coloured fringes show, however, on the margin of objects, due to the dispersion through the fusion of a *plus* flint with a *minus* crown lens—the opposite to the principle of overcoming achromatism. The "Luxe" form of invisible solid bifocal is made out of one piece of glass, the reading addition being ground together with or on the same surface as the spherical part of the primary lens. The perisopic form is the least "visible." Special machinery has had to be devised for grinding these, and the makers are able to guarantee the accuracy to the standards of the Optical Society for trial sight lenses. The "Luxe" is made with segments of varying sizes, so as to give correct centering vertically to every combination of *plus* element in the primary lens. The lecturer proceeded to show that no case is too intricate to be satisfied with these lenses. The "demi-luxe," a semi-invisible bifocal, meets the case of myopia in every degree with correct centering. The uni-bifocal is the oldest of the solid down curves, but, while optically correct, there is the ridge to which there are great objections. There was a short discussion afterwards, in which the Chairman and Mr. W. E. Dixey took part. The lecturer received a vote of thanks, on the proposition of Mr. F. W. Bateman, seconded by Mr. A. W. Boatman.

**Keighley.**—A meeting of the Keighley Chemists' Association was held at the Devonshire Hotel on November 26, Mr. F. Gill (President) in the chair. Mr. E. C. Carr (Skippton) delivered an address on *Prescriber, Pharmacist, and*

**Patient.** He held that chemists, in signing the Insurance agreements under the National Insurance Act, have surrendered their individuality and become a body of State servants, with a maximum of responsibility and a minimum of pay. He also touched upon the questions of ownership and repetition of prescriptions. A discussion followed, and Mr. Carr was heartily thanked.

**LONDON ASSISTANTS.**—*Impromptu Discussions* were the order of the evening at the meeting of the Chemists' Assistants' Association at Bonnington Hotel, London, W.C., on November 20. The President (Mr. F. W. Crossley-Holland) handed round to Messrs. Gosling, Hillier, Brittain, Haslam, Wells, Minter, Thompson, and McMillan, subjects for discussion, the introducers being allowed eight minutes' speech and the subsequent speakers two minutes'. The object of everyone having an opportunity of speaking was well fulfilled, some of the subjects being keenly discussed.

**Paisley.**—The monthly meeting of the Paisley Pharmaceutical Association was held in the George Temperance Hotel on November 20. The Vice-President (Mr. Sim) was in the chair. It was agreed to send two delegates to the recently formed Federation of Paisley Shopkeepers. Owing to Mr. Paton (Treasurer) leaving the town, a vacancy occurred on the Council, and to fill which Mr. Angus Brown was appointed. Mr. H. Stewart (Secretary) mentioned that Mr. Paton had bought a business at Watford, and as an appreciation of his work as Treasurer and as a member of the local Pharmaceutical Committee a presentation had been made to Mr. Paton of seven volumes of selected authors' works. An interesting paper was then read by Mr. David Croall on *The Experiences of a Pharmacist Abroad*, which was a description of the lecturer's experience on a sugar plantation in South America. Referring to chemists, he stated that they are the *élite* of the shopkeepers there. A vote of thanks was given to Mr. Croall.

## FESTIVITIES.

### MR. WELLINGS' JUBILEE.

MR. WILLIAM WELLINGS, of Evans', Liverpool, is very well known to chemists in Lancashire and the North, and the fact that he has just completed fifty years' service with his firm thus has a wider interest than to those only who spend their business lives in and around 56 Hanover Street, Liverpool. The directors of Evans Sons Leseher & Webb, Ltd., recognised the event by presenting Mr. Wellings with a silver rose-bowl, on which was inscribed:

"Presented to William Wellings by the directors of Evans Sons Leseher & Webb, Ltd., as a token of appreciation of fifty years' faithful service. November 3, 1913."

Mr. J. J. Evans, Chairman of directors, in making the presentation, said he had special pleasure in so doing, as

he himself has a greater length of service in the House, having been there for fifty-five years. He recalled the time when his father engaged Mr. Wellings as an apprentice in the office, and Mr. Wellings had worked under him for many years in various departments, so that he is in a position today to do any work that he is asked to do for the company. Mr. Evans regretted the absence of Sir Edward Evans, and expressed the gratification of all the directors that Mr. Wellings had been so long in their service. Mr.

MR. W. WELLINGS.

William P. Evans also spoke in appreciation of Mr. Wellings, who, in his reply, said that any success he had had in business was due, first, to the training he had received at the Blue Coat School opposite, where he had been for five years, so that he could claim to have been fifty-five years in Hanover Street; and, secondly, Mr. John had been, so to speak, his guiding star. He spoke of the times past, and said, with regard to the directors' presentation, that he esteemed it so deeply that he could not put what he felt into words. He appreciated the kindness of the directors. He had always done his best. He looked upon Mr. John as an inspiration, and had always tried to live up as far as lay in his power to the high standard set by the firm.—On Wednesday evening, November 19, the Liverpool employees of the company presented Mr. Wellings with a solid silver

tea and coffee service suitably inscribed. Mr. C. F. Malvern, general manager of the warehouse, speaking for the employees, said that he is probably the next oldest in the firm's service, and it was a great pleasure to his fellow-servants to be able to subscribe together to show their appreciation of Mr. Wellings and to commemorate their affection for him. There were no exceptions in this mark of their esteem, as it came from all parts of the establishment, including the office, laboratory and mills, and warehouse. They recognised the worth of Mr. Wellings, who had always been most sympathetic with those who were his fellow-workers, and all wished that he would long be spared to enjoy this memento of the occasion. Mr. Wellings replied in terms of warm thanks, his remarks greatly interesting the company, as they recalled incidents which some had forgotten and others had never heard.

### THE WESTERN DINNER.

MR. JOHN D. MARSHALL (the President) was in the chair at the annual dinner of the Western Pharmacists' Association, which took place on November 26 at the Restaurant Frascati, Oxford Street, London, W. There were about 150 people present, including Sir Thomas B. Crosby (ex-Lord Mayor of London), Sir A. Pearcey Gould and twelve other medical men, Mr. E. White and Mr. W. J. U. Woolecock (President and Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society), Mr. J. C. Umney and Mr. R. R. Bennett (Past-President and Secretary of the British Pharmaceutical Conference), Mr. C. T. Allen, Mr. F. W. Ashton (Idris, Ltd.), Mr. A. R. Arrowsmith (Apollinaris, Ltd.), Mr. A. Procter Atkinson (Duncan, Flockhart & Co.), Mr. J. Teague Barrett, Mr. E. Beaton, Mr. G. Beaton, Mr. S. M. Bosworth, Mr. J. D. Marshall.

B.Sc., Mr. W. S. Boyack, Mr. E. H. Brittain, Mr. R. H. Brittain, Mr. A. B. Britton, Mr. W. Browne, Mr. C. Brooks (Anglo-American Drug Co.), Mr. Lionel Cooper (C. H. Phillips Chemical Co.), Mr. E. Elt, B.Sc., Mr. H. B. Everson (Hopkins & Williams), Mr. F. W. Gamble, Mr. W. F. Gulliver, Mr. H. Hickey (Parke, Davis & Co.), Mr. J. Stuart Hills and Mr. E. W. Lucas (Bell, Hills & Lucas), Mr. F. W. Crossley-Holland (Menley & James), Mr. Sidney Jameson (H. K. Mulford Co.), Mr. J. Keall, Mr. H. J. Kluge, Mr. A. Latrelle, Mr. R. E. Lownsborough, Mr. F. L. K. Loxley, Mr. C. W. Martin (S. Maw, Son & Sons), Mr. S. J. Massey (Magesons'), Mr. E. T. Neathercoat, Mr. C. A. Noble, Mr. C. Presant (Sangers'), Mr. H. R. Procter, Mr. J. W. Royle (Ingram & Royle), Mr. T. W. Thakstone (Pritchard & Constance), Mr. G. A. Tocher, Mr. G. Tweedy, Mr. E. Warriek and Mr. R. C. Warwick (Warwick Bros.), Mr. G. Whitfield (Scarborough), Mr. E. Whineray, Mr. B. R. Wilkinson, Mr. T. R. Williams (Wright, Layman & Umney), and Mr. J. R. Wretts. After dinner and the loyal toast, Mr. A. R. Melhuish proposed the toast of

### "THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY."

and in the course of his speech outlined the things which still remain to be done by the Society. Mr. E. White, in reply, emphasised the fact that the policy of the Society has been continuous. If it had not been for the policy of education which was steadily persevered in for many years, recognition of pharmacists under the National Insurance Act would not have been possible. He looked with confidence to the future, provided the Associations work with the Society. He hoped that chemists would not forget that the Council of the Society has made promises to the Government regarding dispensing in the name of chemists, and they (the chemists) must see that good value is given for the money. The Society will give no protection to the man who does not do his duty to the craft and the nation. (Hear, hear.) Mr. F. W. Gamble proposed the toast of

### "THE MEDICAL PROFESSION,"

to which replies were made by Sir Thomas Boor Crosby and Sir A. Pearcey Gould. The first mentioned, the veteran ex-Lord Mayor of London, began by referring to the enormous scope of the subject upon which he was expected to speak. He reminded his hearers that when he began his medical education the state of medicine was very different from what it is now. Apprenticed to an apothecary in his native Fens, it was in those days the custom for people to be bled in the bend of the elbow twice yearly. He had often thought since that he could at that time hardly have realised the responsibility of the process of venesection, how near the vein there is an artery. Next the speaker referred to the foundation of the London University, and



the epidemics of smallpox and typhus fever, rife in his early days, now almost crushed out by preventive measures. Antiseptic surgery he regarded as the grandest advance surgery has ever known. Then he spoke of his civic duties, and stated that he accepted the office of Lord Mayor largely for the sake of the profession, as he was assured that during the 750 years of the existence of the office there was no record of a medical man ever filling the position. Sir A. Pearce Gould, who also replied, took as his topic the indebtedness of medical men to chemists. "You cannot know," he said, "how grateful we medical men are to you for your very kindly and efficient services." He also expressed the opinion that one of the greatest benefits of the National Insurance Act is the fact that it has brought about the permanent dissociation of prescribing and dispensing. This is an immense step towards setting right what has always been wrong in the relations between medical men and pharmacists. The utility of pharmacists is bound to increase. As an instance, the speaker mentioned that formerly he went through the tedious processes of sterilisation of all articles employed in surgical operations, whereas now he can obtain them much better done by chemists. There are many other things that chemists can do for the medical profession, and the association is bound to become closer in the future. Why are some occupations called professions? It is probably because the personal element plays a large part in some occupations, and that very great importance is attached to personal honour of the participants. "In that case," continued Sir Alfred, "you chemists can surely claim the title of profession as much as we can." So much depends upon the personal equation of pharmacists, and the trusts imposed upon them will place the fullest and highest strain upon the honour and individuality of the calling of pharmacy. (Cheers.)

#### OTHER TOASTS.

Dr. S. H. Browning proposed the toast of "The Western Pharmacists' Association," and Mr. Marshall, in reply, referred to the part taken by the Association in organising chemists in London. Twenty-five years ago London was the worst organised city in the Kingdom; now none possesses a better organisation than the Western Pharmacists' Association. (Hear, hear.) He claimed that the Association has done much by its intimate connection with the Pharmaceutical Society to stimulate that body and generate energy. Mr. F. H. Crossley-Holland proposed "The Visitors," to which Mr. R. H. Joeelyn Swan, F.R.C.S., replied. Mr. W. J. Uglow Woolecock proposed "Kindred Associations," and the reply was made by Mr. J. Keall. An excellent musical programme was rendered during the evening.

#### B.D.H. SWIMMERS.

The British Drug Houses Swimming Club held a very successful Bohemian concert at the London Tavern, London, E.C., on November 21. The chair was taken by the President (Mr. C. A. Hill), supported by Messrs. Alan Hicks, Roger M. Harvey, and W. L. Howie. Numerous alleged telegrams received by the Chairman during the course of the evening punctuated the various items on the programme, and caused much amusement. There was a good programme, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman by Mr. W. Goldsworthy brought a pleasant evening to a close.

#### COOK'S ANNUAL.

The annual tea and entertainment provided by Messrs. Edward Cook & Co., Ltd., the soap specialists, for all their employees took place on November 15. The tables were laid in the large hall of the new toilet department. Mr. Thos. Alex. Cook presided. The programme was enshrined in a special edition of "Ye Bowe Bells" Magazine. During the evening a medal and purse of gold were presented to Mr. George Melton on completion of fifty years' duty, and who is still doing yeoman's service. The concert was opened by Ye Bowe Bells Choral Society with the House song, "Bowe Bells," and the long and varied programme was much enjoyed. The usual souvenirs were handed round, those for the men being specially moulded colouring clay pipes with "The Solace Smile" thereon, and packets of tobacco.

#### ALLEN SWIMMING CLUB.

The first annual dinner and concert in connection with this club (inaugurated in the spring of this year) took place at Prie's Restaurant on November 25. Mr. E. Watlock Allen was in the chair, and he was supported by Mr. K. C. Allen, the general manager (Mr. John Hobbs), and other members of the staff. The secretary (Mr. John Armstrong) was M.C. The evening proved a very enjoyable one to those who attended—some thirty-nine in number. During the interval, after the first part of the programme had been gone through, the distribution of prizes won was made, the club championship being won by Mr. John Armstrong, and

the 100 yards handieap by Mr. Walter Goodwin. It is hoped that during the coming season the club will be affiliated to the Southern Counties Swimming Association and to the Royal Life-saving Society.

#### LANCASter CHEMISTS' DINNER.

The popularity of the annual dinner of the Lancaster Pharmacists' Association was again manifest on November 26, when about eighty members and friends dined at the King's Arms Hotel. Mr. F. N. Whitehead (Morecambe) presided, and the company included the Mayor (Councillor W. Briggs), Mr. W. Arkle, Mr. J. Vinee, Rev. Canon Billington (President of the Lancaster Infirmary), and many local doctors. Councillor R. Knowles proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society," and referred to the improved organisation and to the benefit derived from Parliamentary representation: and Mr. J. Vinee, replying, said that they have found it necessary to supplement the educational work by commercial development. Mr. W. Arkle proposed the toast of "The Mayor," to which Councillor Briggs responded, and urged chemists to take a deeper interest in local government. Councillor J. Birkett submitted "The Visitors," and Dr. Burrow, Mr. N. A. Wood, and Canon Billington replied. Dr. Oldham proposed "The President," to which Mr. Whitehead replied, complimenting Mr. J. B. Shattock on his enthusiastic secretarial work.

#### P.F.C. SMOKING-CONCERT.

The annual smoking-concert held in connection with the Pharmaceutical Football Club of the School of Pharmacy took place at the Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C., on November 25. Mr. Alan Francis was in the chair, supported by Mr. E. White and Mr. W. J. U. Woolecock (President and Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society), Professor H. G. Greenish, Mr. H. Finnemore, Mr. R. R. Bennett, Mr. W. F. Gulliver, Mr. F. A. Rogers, Mr. E. T. Neathcroat, Mr. V. C. Hewlett, Mr. C. T. Allen, Mr. W. Browne, and Mr. C. H. Hampshire. The attendance was a little below the average, which is regrettable having regard to the excellent programme which had been arranged by the hon. secretaries (Messrs. T. W. Crosby and W. H. Gasson). The proceedings went with a swing, and it was obvious that all those present enjoyed the evening. Before the interval Mr. Woolecock proposed the toast of "The P.F.C." in a humorous vein. He said that judging from the noise he heard on Saturday afternoons the club must be in a very flourishing condition. Mr. C. E. Corfield (the captain) replied. Other toasts were "The Chairman," proposed by Professor H. G. Greenish, and "The Concert Committee," which Mr. W. R. Pratt proposed.

#### INCREASED BUCHU TAX.

The Chief Conservator of Forests of the Union notifies in the "Union Government Gazette" of October 21 that on and after January 1, 1914, the tariff for the collection of buchu from forest reserves in the Division of Clanwilliam will be raised from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per lb. Government Notice No. 1333 of September 27, 1912, is accordingly cancelled. It is further notified that the season for collecting buchu from the reserves in question will be from February 1 to March 31, inclusive, in each year. The buchu areas in this division are now divided into four sections, and with a view to adequately protecting the plant and to enable it to seed, only one section will be thrown open at a time, and collectors are responsible that they only work in the section that is open for working in any collecting season.

The following is a copy of an official order relating to the collection of buchu in the Division of Paarl, Cape Province, which has just been issued: "It is notified for general information that the season for the collection of buchu (*Barosma* species) from Crown lands and forest reserves, in the Division of Paarl (Cape Province), will be from January 15 to February 28 in each year, inclusive. The buchu-bearing areas in the Paarl Division have been divided into three blocks—viz.: No. 1—Oliphants Hoek, including Groot Drakenstein and French Hoek Mountains; No. 2—Wemmers Hoek Mountains; No. 3—Klein Drakenstein, including the Dwarfs Rivers Kloof Mountains and Klein Drakenstein Mountains to Daljosaphat; and licences authorising the holder to collect will be issued by a forester to be stationed at French Hoek, subject to the payment of a royalty of 6d. per lb., the said royalty to be paid prior to the removal of any buchu from the area on which collected. With a view to adequately protecting the plant and to enable it to seed, only one area will be thrown open at a time. During the 1914 season Area No. 1 will be thrown open. Attention is invited to Government Notice No. 840 of 1910, issued under the provisions of Section 31 of the Forest Act, No. 28 of 1888 (Cape), and to the Buehu Protection Ordinance, No. 17 of 1913 (Cape), providing for the due protection of plants of the buchu species."

## TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

### 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., November 27.

**B**USINESS in drugs and chemicals shows some improvement over that of last week, but is not as brisk as it should be for the period of the year. Among the changes is a sharp rise in opium as the result of speculation in primary markets. Morphine has followed in sympathy, with a good inquiry, but at the close several of the makers have withdrawn. Codeine, too, is firmer. Menthol and Japan mint oil met with a sensational collapse at auction to-day. Belladonna-root is dearer for good test, and higher prices are asked for areca. Balsam tolu is now firmer. Cascara sagrada is steady with more demand, and for ergot the recent firmer tone is maintained. English castor oil is 5s. higher. Cevadilla and German fennel seeds are cheaper. Florentine orris is firm. Chillies are dearer. The essential-oil group includes a further decline in Bourbon geranium oil. Wintergreen oil (sweet birch) is firmer. Lemon oil on spot, owing to scarcity, is tending upwards, but new crop is unaltered. American peppermint continues neglected. Other changes comprise an easier tendency in lead-compounds, such as red and white lead. Benzols and copper sulphate are also easier. The principal changes have been as under :

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Areca	Codeine	Benzols	Cevadilla
Belladonna root	Euphorbia pil.	Cardamoms	Fennel-seed (German)
Castor oil (Eng.)	Lemon oil (spot)	Kola	Geranium oil (Bourbon)
Chillies	Quicksilver (sec'nds)	Lead-compounds	Guaiacum
Cinnamon (worked)		Nutmegs	Menthол
Linseed oil		(W.I.)	Mint oil (Jap.)
Morphine			Turpentine
Opium			
Rape oil			
Saffron			
Seuna (Tinn.)			

### Cablegram.

NEW YORK, November 26.—Business in drugs is dull. Opium is 5c. cheaper at \$5.60 per lb. Peppermint oil in tins is steady at \$3.55 per lb. Mexican sarsaparilla is firm at 19c. per lb. Podophyllum-root (mandrake) has advanced ½c. to 8½c. Copaiba is steady for 43c. for South American. Jalap is easy at 15c. per lb., and Oregon balsam is lower at \$1.00 per lb.

### London Markets.

**ALCOHOL.**—As was anticipated, the British distillers at their meeting to-day (Thursday) have resolved to leave the price of druggists' spirit unchanged for next year's contracts. The quotation is 1s. 3d. per proof gal. delivered, which, with the duty of 14s. 9d., equals 16s.

**ANISEED.**—Russian is selling at 26s. to 28s. per cwt. for ordinary old to good new crop.

ARECA of fair current quality is quoted from Hamburg at 16s. per cwt. c.i.f., no good being obtainable.

**BALSAM TOLU.**—Privately the value of good bright on the spot is 2s. 6d. It would appear that a con-

siderable quantity of balsam tolu was imported into the U.S.A. in anticipation of the duty of 10c. per lb. on crude balsams. Hence the recent slump, from which the market now shows signs of recovery. In auction 13 cases of new crop were offered, being partly damp and softish and part slightly drossy, for which 2s. 3d. was the limit.

**BELLADONNA-ROOT** is about 5s. per cwt. dearer, holders asking 40s. for root testing 0.515 (Parry). *Belladonna-leaves* of genuine quality are practically unobtainable, those offered being at a wide range of price, according to the amount of admixture, chiefly scopolia-leaves.

**BURDOCK-ROOT** for shipment from the Continent is quoted at 27s. 6d. c.i.f. for November-December shipment.

**CALABAR BEANS** have been selling in Hamburg at 5½d. per lb., c.i.f. terms, in at least 5-cwt. lots.

**CAMPHOR.**—The arrivals comprise 875 cases crude from Keelung, also 65 cases refined from Kobe.

**CAMPHOR OIL** is quoted by single cases at 50s. per cwt. on spot from importers, and is very scarce; arrivals are not expected for a few weeks.

**CANARY-SEED** is firm, but sales are few, at 83s. per quarter for ordinary Morocco, 86s. for Turkish, and 94s. for good Morocco. Spanish is scarce and dearer at 115s. to 120s. for good bold.

**CARAWAY-SEED.**—A fair quantity has been sold lately at 25s. 6d. to 26s. per cwt. for common Dutch, and at 27s. to 28s. for fair to good.

**CASCARA SAGRADA** in rather more demand at between 37s. to 40s. per cwt. spot, according to age. In auction 42 bags of dark quilly imported in 1912 were limited at 37s.

**CASSIA FISTULA.**—East Indian is reported to be cleared from first hands on the Hamburg market, but second hands offer in at least ton lots at 15s. per cwt. c.i.f.

**CASTOR OIL** is 5s. per ton higher for English make, first pressings of which are offered at 26l. 5s. per ton for prompt, 26l. 10s. for January-June, and 26l. 15s. for July-December in barrels, delivered free on wharf London, with the usual 50s. per ton extra for tins in cases. Pharmaceutical quality is 50s. per ton over the price of firsts. Belgian of first pressing is 25l. 5s. per ton prompt and forward f.o.b. Antwerp.

**CEVADILLA-SEED** is cheaper, decorticated quality offering at 50s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f., in at least 5-cwt. lots.

**CHILLIES** were dearer at auction, 37 bags good red Nyasaland selling at 55s. per cwt.

**CINCHONA.**—The auction to be held at Amsterdam on Thursday, December 11, will consist of 1,677 bales and 184 cases, weighing about 142,406 kilos. The amount of manufacturing bark to be tendered for on December 10 will be 11,011 packages, weighing 978,579 kilos. The amount of quinine sulphate in the bark cannot be given, as a couple of analyses have not yet been published. The first-hand stock at Amsterdam on November 20 consisted of 12,695 packages Government and 51,453 packages private bark, including the first-hand stock to be offered on December 10 and 11. The exports from Jaya to Europe amounted to 1,258,000 Amst. lb., against 546,000 Amst. lb. at the corresponding period of 1912.

**CINNAMON.**—The usual quarterly sales were held last Monday, the quantity offered amounting to 300 bales. There was good competition for the 60 bales of worked, and these were all sold, the finest qualities bringing one penny per lb. more than at the auction three months ago. Superior firsts sold at 1s. 8d., fine seconds at 1s. 7d., good to fine thirds at 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d., good to fine fourths at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d., and stout foxy at 1s. per lb. Of 180 bales unworked, none was sold, but after the auction a few bales of firsts changed hands at 1s. 3d. per lb. Of 60 bales hard, 17 bales thirds sold at 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; 300 bales quillings and pieces were bought in.

**CLOVES.**—Nothing offered at auction. Privately a fair business has been done, including old-crop Zanzibar at 6½d. and new at 6d. The sales to arrive include November-January at 5½d. to 5¾d., and January-March 5¾d. to

$5\frac{1}{2}$ d. c.i.f., and for March-May delivery sales have been made at 6d. to  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d., closing buyers at  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d.

COCA-LEAVES.—At the auction to be held at Amsterdam on December 11, 1,039 packages Java leaves, weighing 54,542 kilos., will be offered.

COD-LIVER OIL.—Our Bergen correspondent writes that prime non-congealing Norwegian oil has again been sold at about 85s. 6d. per barrel c.i.f., but on the whole the demand is very slow.

CODEINE.—Although no advance has been made officially, the market is firmer at about 11s. 3d. for the pure alkaloid in 175-oz. contract quantities.

CORTIANDER-SEED is slow of sale, but quotations are unchanged at 16s. to 17s. per cwt. for wormy Morocco and 19s. 6d. for sound.

CUMIN-SEED is quiet and unaltered in price at 25s. per cwt. for common Morocco and 27s. to 30s. for fair to good.

DIGITALIS-LEAVES.—New crop of good green quality is offered at 28s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f.

ERGOT.—The recent firmer tendency is maintained, Russian offering for prompt shipment at 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d. c.i.f., and for January-February shipment 1s. 11d. c.i.f. is quoted. On the spot, good Russian is held for 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d., and Spanish at about 2s. 6d., with new crop at 2s.  $5\frac{1}{2}$ d. net c.i.f. The *Alcala* has brought 21 packages from Vigo. In auction four bags of small greyish Russian were limited at 2s. 3d., and three bags fair sound Spanish at 2s. 6d.

EUPHORBIA PIL. is firmer, with usual Indian herb offering from Hamburg at 46s. per cwt. in at least 5-cwt. lots.

EUPHORBIA.—The *Agadir* has brought 20 bags from Mazagan.

FENNEL-SEED.—New crop German is offered at the lower price of 42s. 6d. c.i.f. for prime green, and 35s. c.i.f. for fair, in at least 5-cwt. lots. *Levant* is quoted 25s. 6d. c.i.f.

FENUGREEK-SEED is offering at 10s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. terms, for shipment from Morocco, but no business is reported.

GENTIAN sells steadily at 26s. per cwt. ex wharf, up to 28s. 6d. being quoted for small wholesale lots.

GERANIUM OIL has further receded, new crop offering for January shipment at slightly under 15s. c.i.f., the value of good brands on the spot being about 19s.

GRAINS OF PARADISE.—Business has been done on c.i.f. terms at 57s. 6d. per owt.

JABORANDI.—Small round Ceara leaves have been selling at the unchanged rate of 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. c.i.f., in at least 5-cwt. lots.

LEMON OIL.—With a temporary scarcity on spot and a fair demand, the tone here is firmer at from about 12s. 6d. to 12s. 9d. and upwards for finest brands. The Sicilian market appears to be marking time, with the usual brands offering for January-March shipment at from 10s. to 11s. c.i.f., and prompt shipment at 11s. to 11s. 3d. c.i.f.

A Palermo advice dated November 22 reports an entirely unchanged market in spot oil, with no business. The new crop is still developing slowly on account of lack of rain; consequently there is no sign as yet of an early start in the pressings. Consumers abroad are holding off, awaiting further developments; for shipment 10s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. c.i.f. is quoted.

LIME-JUICE.—The *Leander* has brought 226 packages and the *Tagus* 279 packages from Dominica.

LIME OIL.—The arrivals include 15 cases from Dominica and 62 packages from Montserrat.

LINSEED.—Fine qualities are firm at 50s. to 52s. per quarter.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—Russian of the new crop is quoted at 42s. for double decorticated, and at 26s. 6d. for single decorticated, in at least 10-cwt. lots.

LYCOPODIUM.—Russian of treble-sifted quality is offered at 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. net, c.i.f., in cases.

MILK-SUGAR.—Arrivals comprise 210 cases from Amsterdam.

MORPHINE.—The sharp rise in opium has led to an exceptionally good inquiry for morphine, of which

there appears to be little in second hands, while the makers have had to decline business as they are unable to give prompt delivery. The value of hydrochloride powder is about 7s. 6d. per oz. in quantity. At the close several makers have withdrawn their offers.

MYRRH.—The arrivals comprise 37 bags from Aden.

OPIUM.—A strong speculative movement has taken place in primary markets at prices showing an aggregate advance of about 1s. 6d., and from the lowest prices touched (10s. 6d. to 11s.) about three weeks ago, the advance is now 2s. 6d. per lb. A good business has been done in the usual 11-per-cent. quality at up to 13s. 6d. c.i.f., principally between speculators and dealers, and partly consumers. At the close, however, 15s. 6d. c.i.f. was cabled as being asked, but buyers here prefer to hold aloof. The prospects for cheaper prices for the remainder of this year are not hopeful, as even with the advance this week, sellers in primary markets are faced with a loss. On the spot, values are from 15s. to 15s. 6d. per lb. for Turkey druggists' quality. The arrivals comprise 117 cases from Constantinople to Liverpool, 84 cases from Smyrna, and 16 cases from Bushire to London.

A Smyrna correspondent writes on November 14 that "our market this week continued active, the sales amounting to 66 cases manufacturing descriptions at 11s. to 13s. 6d. as to quality. The little rain which fell last week has not continued, and we have again to report dry weather all over the country, in consequence of which holders are firmly maintaining the position, and in some cases withdrawing their goods. Owing to this we cannot offer any hope of lower figures, and should even rain fall now, the season being so far advanced, it will not make any appreciable difference, as holders will now wait until the early spring to see to what extent the sowings will have progressed. The arrivals in Smyrna amount to 3,726 cases, against 1,883 cases at same date last year."

A Constantinople correspondent writes on November 22 that, in spite of the fact that the Interior continues to report rain, holders do not seem to give way much; however, a certain easiness in the market is noticeable, which has led to a fair business. The sales of the week were 24 cases druggists' at ptrs. 167.50 to 174, 28 cases "softs" at ptrs. 200 to 215, eight cases prime Hadikeuy at ptrs. 270 to 234, and five cases Malatias at ptrs. 220.

ORANGE OIL.—In one direction the higher price of 11s. c.i.f. is quoted for sweet of new crop, which is practically ready for shipment, but in other quarters prices are unaltered at 10s. 3d. c.i.f.

ORRIS.—Florentine remains firm and comparatively scarce, good sorts offering at 69s. per cwt., c.i.f. terms. In the drug-auction three bags of fair plump Mogador sold at 44s. per cwt.

QUICKSILVER.—First-hands has remained unchanged at last week's advance to 7l. 10s., and second-hands has appreciated to 7l. 2s. per bottle.

QUILLIAIA is slow of sale in Liverpool at 38l. 10s. per ton on spot. Arrivals at that port comprise 165 bales from Valparaiso.

RED LEAD has declined 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton to 21l., and dry white to 25l. per ton.

SAFFRON.—Since writing last week the Spanish market has advanced about 3s. per lb., and spot follows in sympathy, the principal sellers asking from 42s. to 44s. per lb. net, according to quality.

SANDALWOOD OIL.—In continuance of last week's information, we understand that at the Mysore auction of wood this week the prices were well sustained, and the average has been equal to the higher values paid last year. It is the opinion in the *khotis* that prices will now be maintained throughout the series. Most of the cheaper offers of sandalwood oil appear to have been withdrawn from this market, the value of finest English distilled from E.I. wood being from 21s. upwards.

SHELLAC on balance shows no change, the market closing with sellers of standard quality TN at 86s. to 87s., and fair AC Garnet at 87s. on spot. For arrival TN for November-December shipment is quoted 86s., and January-February at 86s. 6d. Futures are cheaper since our last report, the sales including December at 85s. to 87s., March 89s. to 91s., and May 92s. 6d.

TURPENTINE shows a decline of  $4\frac{1}{2}d.$  per cwt., American closing at 32s.  $1\frac{1}{2}d.$  on the spot and December at 32s. 3d.

VALERIAN.—Belgian is quoted from the Continent at 35s. per cwt. for last year's crop, and for new crop, November-December shipment, 29s. per cwt. c.i.f. is asked.

WINTERGREEN OIL or sweet birch oil, from *Betula lenta*, is firmer at 8s. per lb.

### London Drug-auctions.

*Commercial Sale Rooms,*

*Mincing Lane, E.C., November 27.*

At the sale of first-hand goods the demand was poor, the bulk passing the hammer unsold. No Cape aloes offered. Sumatra benzoin is scarce and firmly held. Siam, on the other hand, is plentiful, with buyers holding aloof. Cardamoms, although in small supply, were easier. Honey was mostly of indifferent quality, and attracted few buyers. East Indian ipecacuanha sold well at generally easy rates. Kola was cheaper. Menthol and Japanese mint oil provided a sensational collapse of 2s. 8d. and 9d. per lb. respectively. Rhubarb is firm. Grey and Native Jamaica sarsaparilla was not offered. Tinnevelly senna brought  $\frac{1}{2}d.$  advance on common and  $\frac{1}{2}d.$  on greenish leaf. Beeswax was firm. The following table shows the quantity of goods offered and sold:

	Offered Sold		Offered Sold		
Aconite (Jap.)	19	0	Gum acacia	30	0
Agar-agar	12	0	Jalap	4	0
Aloes—			Kamala	4	0
Curaçao (bxns.)	30	0	Kola	88	13
Anise (Russ.)	30	0	Menthol	25	25
Annatto-seed	9	9	Mutton-bird oil	1	0
Antimony (er.)	20	0	Myrrh	5	0
Asafetida	6	6	Nux vomica	60	0
Balsam peru	5	0	Olibanum	11	0
Balsam tolu	13	0	Orange-peel	9	9
Benzoin			Oris (Mog.)	3	3
Palembang	58	0	Peppermint oil		
Siam	36	0	(Jap.)	52	52
Sumatra	20	0	Puree	6	0
Buchu	8	0	Rhubarb (China)	32	7
Calumba	46	0	Sandalwood	53	0
Cannabis indica	9	0	Sandarac	5	0
Cardamoms & seed	54	51	Sarsaparilla—		
Cascara sagrada	42	0	Lima-Jam.	11	11*
Celery-seed	6	0	Native Jam.	1	1
Coca-leaves	7	0	Scammony-root		
Copaiba balsam	3	0	(Mex.)	189	0
Cubeb	35	0	Senna and pods—		
Cuttlefish-bone	40	0	Alexandrian	5	0
Dragon's-blood	9	0	Tinnevelly	496	496
Ergot	7	0	Squill	10	0
Eucalyptus oil	69	10	Tamarinds—		
Galls	2	2	West Indian	23	0
Guaiacum	26	23	Tonka-beans	5	0
Honey—			Tragacanth	16	16
Cuban	51	13	Turneric	228	60
Jamaica	7	0	Wax (Bees)—		
West Indian	29	0	Australian	3	0
Ipecacuanha—			East African	5	5
Cartagena	10	0	East Indian	16	4
East Indian	60	39	Jamaica	1	1
Matto Grosso	15	2	West Indian	15	2
Minas	5	0	Zanzibar	20	15

\* Sold privately.

ALOES.—No Cape offered. Thirty boxes Curaçao were bought in at from 42s. to 55s. per cwt., as to quality. Privately capey Curaçao are quoted from Hamburg at 39s. c.i.f. The *Kinfauns Castle* has brought 57 packages from the Cape.

The exports from the Union of South Africa during September amounted to 69,872 lb., valued at 806/-, against 106,853 lb., valued at 1,163/-, in September 1912. For the nine months the exports were 463,342 lb., valued at 5,539/-, against 570,618/-, valued at 5,924/-, or 107,276 lb. less.

ANNATO-SEED.—Two bags fair bright East Indian sold at  $3\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb., and seven bags fair Ceylon went at  $3\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb.

BENZOIN.—Sumatra is scarce, only 20 cases being offered, consisting of fair small to bold almond seconds, with false packed ends and sides, for which 7s. 7s. 6d. was wanted; 48 cases Palembang offered, 72s. 6d. being wanted for ordinary false packed seconds. Siam remains in excessive supply. The limit placed on small to bold clean free almonds of good flavour was 32/- per cwt., and grains in shivery block 22/-.

BUCHU.—Eight bales offered and bought in, comprising fair round clean greenish, which were held at 5s. 7d., rather stalky ditto at 5s. 2d., yellowish and stalky at 5s. 1d., and bronzy stalky longs at 4s. 10d. per lb.

The exports from the Union of South Africa during September amounted to 8,585 lb., valued at 1,793/-, against 8,406 lb., valued at 1,865/-, in 1912. For the nine months ending September the exports were 153,884 lb., valued at 27,025/-, against 202,156 lb., valued at 34,931/-, in 1912, or 68,272 lb. less.

CANNABIS INDICA.—Eight bags rather stalky Zanzibar tops were limited at 1s. 3d. per lb. For genuine Bombay tops 5s. 6d. was wanted.

CARDAMOMS were in small supply at generally easier rates, the sales comprising Ceylon-Mysore good bold long palish, 5s. 5d. to 5s. 6d.; medium to bold ditto, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 3d.; small to medium ditto, 4s. 10d.; small palish, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; splits and pickings, 3s. 8d.; dull seed, 4s. 9d. Fair small to medium native wild Ceylon (two cases), 4s., and very lean mouldy (one case), 2s. 3d.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—Four cases of broken Singapore cake of fair colour were limited at 10/- 10s., a bid of 9/- 10s. being refused.

EUCALYPTUS OIL.—Ten cases sold without reserve at 1s. 4d. for oil containing 64 to 65 per cent. eucalyptol of clear quality.

GUAIACUM.—A parcel of 26 cases very low to low drossy block sold at from 1d. to  $2\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb. without reserve.

HONEY.—Quiet. Of Cuban, 51 tierces offered, and 13 sold at 35s. 6d. for pale amber set, and at from 28s. 6d. to 30s. for brown to dark amber set. Brown set St. Nevis and Belize in cases was bought in at 26s. Seven barrels ordinary dull brown liquid Jamaica were bought in at 25s. The arrivals include 486 barrels Chilian to Liverpool.

IEPECACUANHA.—The new lot of 60 bales Johore offered, of which 39 sold publicly at from 8s. to 8s. 1d. (four bales at the latter price) for the usual quality of native-picked well-annulated root. The previous public sale of this description was in August, when an average of 8s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. was paid. Further sales were made subsequent to the auction at 8s., and the balance is expected to be quickly disposed of. Matto Grosso was slow of sale, fair bright natural selling at 8s. for one bale, bids of 7s. 10d. and 7s. 11d. being refused; a bale of fair, slightly water-damaged, sold at 7s. 1d. Five bales of cultivated Minas were limited at 7s. 10d., and four cases of Cartagena at 7s. 9d. for mostly good quality.

KOLA.—Slightly easier; 13 packages selling at 3d. to  $3\frac{1}{4}d.$  for fair small to bold dried West Indian,  $2\frac{1}{2}d.$  for darkish, slightly wormy, and 2d. for dark mouldy.

MENTHOL was one of the few features of the sale, a decline of about 2s. 8d. taking place as compared with the previous sale. In all 25 cases Kobayashi offered from two catalogues. The first five cases sold at from 10s. 7d. to 10s. 9d., but the chief parcel of 20 cases realised from 9s. 6d. to 10s. 1d., all without reserve, the average price paid being 10s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Three cases were withdrawn, although catalogued without reserve. Privately, the market has been unsettled in view of the above offerings, with a retail business at 11s. 6d. Business in Kobayashi and (or) Suzuki has been done in combination with oil at 13s. c.i.f. for January-March shipment, and in menthol alone for March-May shipment at 8s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. c.i.f. The arrivals comprise 35 cases crystals and 65 cases oil from Japan. At the close the spot price of Kobayashi is about 10s. 6d.

ORANGE-PEEL.—Nine bags low thick ringlets, part mouldy and damaged and unsuitable for druggists' purposes, sold without reserve, if pay charges, at 5s. per cwt.

PEPPERMINT OIL was about 9d. per lb. cheaper. The first broker to sell without reserve offered a string of 19 cases Suzuki, which realised from 4s. 3d. to 4s. 4d. (one lot 4s. 5d.), and the second broker who offered had catalogued 58 cases without reserve, but withdrew 25 cases on the instructions of his seller. The remaining 33 cases (Kobayashi) sold at 4s. 3d. (one lot) to 4s. 4d.

The withdrawal of the above 25 cases evoked an unavailing protest from two brokers who had sold menthol and oil

without reserve earlier in auction. They characterised the withdrawals as unfair to their buyers, and the selling broker promised to pass on their protest to the owner. The incident has caused some irritation among interested parties, who say it is not "playing the game." When goods catalogued for sale "without reserve" are to be withdrawn, or the words "without reserve" are to be deleted, it would be in the interests of all parties to announce the fact at the commencement of the auction.

**RHUBARB.**—Firm. Four cases medium flat High-dried, with three-quarters pinky fracture, sold at 1s. 11d., and a case of Canton pickings, with three-quarters fair pinky fracture, sold at 1s. 10d. A case of bold flat Canton sold without reserve at 2s. 6d., and a case of medium round at 2s. 5d. for three-quarters very fair pinky fracture.

**SARSAPARILLA.**—No grey Jamaica offered; privately, second-hand holders ask 2s. 2d. Eleven bales Lima-Jamaica were catalogued, but the broker said they had been sold privately. Of Native-Jamaica, a single bale offered and sold at 11d. for dull red; eight packages of this description have arrived.

**SENNA.**—Tinnevelly excited keen competition, orders only being partially filled. Very full to 4d. per lb. advance was paid, the top price being 5d. for four bales of good bold green leaf. Medium to bold good greenish sold at 4d.; fair bold greenish, 3d. to 3½d.; ordinary small and medium, 2½d. to 2¾d.; and inferior to ordinary yellowish small, 1½d. to 2¼d. *Pods*, dark to fair, 1¼d. to 2d. per lb. Five bales dusty Alexandrian siftings were limited at 3½d.

**TURMERIC.**—Sixty bags fair Bengal finger sold without reserve at from 11s. to 12s. per cwt. Fair Madras finger was bought at 18s.

**WAX, BEES'.**—Zanzibar being scarce, 15 bales of good block sold at from 7l. 15s. to 7l. 17s. 6d. per cwt., being firm; and for five bags East African, fair crumbly ball, part slightly drossy, 7l. 5s. was paid. Four cases common grey Bombay realised 5l., and two cases West Indian went at 7l. 15s. for fair pale, and a barrel Jamaica (all that offered) realised 8l. 10s. for good. Bleached Calcutta was limited at from 8l. 12s. 6d. to 8l. 15s., as to colour. Liverpool reports a firm market for Gambia at 7l. 17s. 6d.

### Manchester Chemical Market.

November 25.

Although there was a shade more inquiry in heavy chemicals for delivery over 1914, especially on export account, prospects were far from good, and this has been confirmed during the past month. Home demand continued exceedingly dull, and the outlook in the cotton-trade was very discouraging. Bleaching-powder shows little change at from 5l. 2s. 6d. to 5l. 7s. 6d. per ton, in softwood casks on rails, but it appears pretty certain that there is a large quantity held in reserve, for which lower prices will ultimately have to be accepted. Caustic soda shows little change at from 8l. 5s. to 10l. 7s. 6d. per ton on rails, according to strength. Another element of uncertainty has been the advent in the English market of American competition, and it was reported that a fairly good reduction would be accepted to keep it out. White powdered arsenic opened quiet, but there was a rather better feeling at the close. Owing to circumstances, sulphate of copper showed a steady reduction in price towards the end of the month, and may be generally quoted 23l. per ton, f.o.r. Manchester. There has been rather a quieter feeling in glycerin; the advance of 5l. per ton at the end of October, coupled with the probability of higher prices ruling for crude, has not caused any particular advance in chemically pure and industrial qualities. Towards the close of the month there was a rather firmer feeling in alumina-products, especially on contract account over the next twelve months. Coal-tar products throughout the month have shown a weaker feeling; in sulphate of ammonia, however, the average of prices seemed to have been fairly maintained, though the close was about 5s. per ton lower, on rails Manchester. For January-April delivery sellers asked a premium of about 5s. per ton. Carbolic acids and benzols show little change. For petrol purposes quotations are around 1s. 4d. or 1s. 5d. per gal., according to quality.

### Heavy Chemicals.

There is a fair average trade for the season of the year passing in the heavy-chemical market, and, generally speaking, main conditions continue as recently reported. A fair proportion of the contracts which were outstanding have

been concluded and at full rates. Regulation of production in accord with demand prevails, and consequently values are well maintained.

**SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.** although dull, is perhaps more accurately described as quietly steady. There is a fair demand for prompt parcels offering, though this seems to come mainly from middle people. The demand from abroad is on the quiet side. Present nearest figures are: London terms, 25 per cent., prompt, 12l. 5s.; Leith, 13l. 2s. 6d.; Liverpool, 13l.; and Hull, 12l. 17s. 6d. The position as regards forward keeps as reported last week, makers' ideas being an advance of 5s. to 7s. 6d., with dealers willing to accept somewhat less.

**BENZOLS,** although slightly lower in quotation, nevertheless maintain their value well when the large quantities placed on the market from new processes are considered. Present naked prices: 90 per cent., 1s. 1½d., and 50 per cent. 1s.; North, 1s. and 11d. respectively.

**ZINC SALTS** are in fair average request at late rates. Zinc sulphate crystals 7l. 5s. to 7l. 15s., and zinc chloride, 100° Tw., 7l. to 7l. 10s. per ton.

**MAGNESIUM SALTS** continue to move fairly well, and are maintained in price. Sulphate, 67s. 6d. to 72s. 6d.; chloride, 67s. 6d. to 72s. 6d.; and carbonate, 30s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt.

**LEAD-PRODUCTS** are somewhat easier. White lead, 26l.; red lead, 21l. 5s.; pig lead, 19l. 15s. to 20l. per ton Tyne.

### Continental Drug and Chemical Markets.

**CALAMUS-ROOT.**—Floods have greatly impeded the digging, and considerable scarcity has already become apparent, this being accentuated by the fact that in Russia also only a small crop was obtained.

**CANTHARIDES.**—Russian remain scarce. Spot (Hamburg) have been sold at m.15, and for shipment at m.14.50 per kilo.

**GLYCERIN.**—A Marscilles report states that during last week the market again became more animated, the demand being for spot and November-December deliveries. Both fr.140 and fr.142.50 were paid for 80 per cent. crude f.o.b. Spanish, Italian, and French ports, as well as f.o.b. Antwerp and Rotterdam. Saponification glycerin, on the other hand, has not been sold above fr.167.50 on spot, and it is reported that contracts took place at less than fr.165.

**GUARANA.**—As a result of a plentiful supply, prices have given way. Spot (Hamburg) is offered at m.25 and on c.i.f. terms in 22 per kilo. is quoted.

**IPECACUANHA.**—Rio is easier at m.18.25, and for Cartagena m.17 per kilo. is quoted in Hamburg.

**LAUREL OIL.**—Genuine Garda is very scarce, and the prices asked are about m.270 per 100 kilos. The new crop, which generally arrives in the market in January, is not expected to lead to any decline.

**QUILLIAI** remains very dull, in spite of offers of whole bark being very scarce. Spot (Hamburg) is quoted at m.68 for whole and at m.72 to m.74 per 100 kilos. for cut.

**WAX (CARNAUBA).**—Prices are lower than those given in our last issue. Business has been done in fatty grey on the spot (Hamburg) at m.270, and for prompt shipment from Brazil m.265 has been paid for a fair quantity. Chalky is readily available on spot at m.295.

GERMANY'S CHIEF SOURCES OF INCOME for Imperial purposes during 1912 were derived from: Customs, 27,180,000l.; spirits, 7,106,000l.; bills of exchange, 7,490,000l.; sugar, 5,390,000l.; beer, 4,725,000l.; salt, 2,170,000l.; scrip issues, 2,138,000l.; lighting, 1,300,000l.; cigarettes, 1,280,000l.; tobacco, 428,000l.; land sales, 1,446,000l.; inheritances, 1,500,000l.; lotteries, 1,775,000l.; and miscellaneous, 4,500,000l.—*British Consul at Dusseldorf*.

AT THE EXHIBITION held in connection with the International Medical Congress in London last August medals were awarded to exhibitors of distinction. It is a handsome



piece of metal relief-work, as the annexed illustration of the obverse and reverse shows. We are indebted to the "British and Colonial Druggist" Exhibition Department for the photograph of the original, which is about 4 in. in diameter.

## Cultivation of Cloves.

SOME interesting information concerning the cultivation of cloves is contained in a book just published by T. Fisher Unwin (12s. 6d.) entitled "Pemba, the Spice Island of Zanzibar," by Captain J. E. E. Craster, R.E., in the course of which he says:

The natives themselves were extremely busy with the clove-harvest. Men, women, and children spent their days in the tops of the trees, sitting or standing on a stick lashed across the branches, picking up the bunches of cloves and dropping them into a cloth, the four corners of which were tied round their necks. Afterwards the cloves were separated from the stems, and spread out on grass mats in front of the houses to dry in the sun.

The clove, when ready for picking, is a delicate pink colour, but as it dries it becomes dark brown. If it is not picked as soon as it turns pink, the bud at the end will burst and become a little starry white flower. After a day or two the flower fades and falls, the clove swells rapidly, and darkens till it looks like a purple olive. It has a large stone inside, and the flesh is also purple, and tastes of essence of cloves. The fruit is eaten by monkeys, but by no other animal.

If cloves are picked after the bud has burst they are not as valuable as before, and if they are left until the fruit has begun to swell it is almost impossible to dry them for the market.

The cloves when dried are bought by Indian merchants, who retail them in Zanzibar to English and German buyers. Just before the harvest the Government had issued an order that every buyer of cloves should keep a record of his purchases, and produce it before the Customs officer, for the Government charges a duty of 25 per cent. on all cloves exported from Zanzibar and Pemba. The order was intended to prevent the smuggling of cloves out of the island. But it was regarded by the Indians with the greatest mistrust, and for a time they refused to buy any cloves at all, so that the owners of the plantations could not sell their produce, or get any money to pay for the picking of the crop. But the Government advanced money to pay the pickers, and threatened to buy the cloves as well; so the Indians abandoned their boycott.

The clove-tree came originally from the Moluccas, from whence it was introduced into Réunion. From Réunion clove-trees were brought to Zanzibar by the Arabs in the early part of the nineteenth century—probably about 1820. Unless the seed is quite fresh when planted it will not grow, and if the seed is transported from place to place it must be carried in water. The young plants grow very slowly, and are not fit to be planted out till they are three or four years old; in their earlier stages they must be carefully shaded from the sun. These difficulties in rearing the clove-tree have limited its cultivation, and it is hardly to be found outside Zanzibar and Pemba. In fact, these two islands supply seven-eighths of the world's crop, and the Pemba crop is about three times the size of the Zanzibar crop.

In Pemba the clove-tree will grow wild, and in abandoned plantations I have found an undergrowth of young, self-sown clove-trees, 6 or 8 ft. in height. Yet there are very few countries in the world where the clove will grow at all, for it requires a high temperature all the year round, rain at very frequent intervals, and heavy dew. A month of dry weather with no dew would probably kill the stoutest tree.

The Arabs do not prune the clove-trees, but allow them to grow as they will till their branches intermingle and no sunlight can reach the lower parts of the trees; after this the trees only bear on the upper branches, where they can get light and air. As it is very difficult to gather the cloves on the topmost branches of tall trees, a good part of the crop is not picked at all. It has been proved that by cutting off the tops of the trees when they get to a height of about 30 ft. the yield of cloves can be greatly increased. The Arabs do not manure the clove-trees in any way, though it would probably pay them to do so. Under the present conditions the trees in Pemba yield about 35 lb. weight of dried cloves per tree in the best years. This amount might be doubled by pruning, weeding, and manuring.

THE members of the Sunderland Pharmaceutical Association held their fifty-first annual dinner on November 19 at the Grand Hotel, Bridge Street. Mr. Wm. Nimmo (President) presided over a large gathering representative of pharmacy, the medical profession, and the Sunderland Corporation.



### Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest. Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

### The Sale of Cocaine.

SIR.—I have read with much interest your reply to "D. S. S. L." in the *C. & D.*, November 22, respecting the sale of cocaine. As one who daily refuses to sell this article, having viewed it in the same light that you do, I wonder whether we should consider the moral obligation? We are in business to make money, and the amount I refuse from this source is considerable; yet I doubt whether any other trader or professional man would take the same view. A doctor would certainly give cocaine or morphine to an habitual user, as he would know the distress caused by withholding—indeed, death might ensue. The innkeeper does not point out to a customer for whisky the awful possibilities of drink, nor does the draper refuse to sell inflammable flannelette. The cocaine fiend knows all the horrors in store, but the life the class lead who sniff this is not a normal one, and they require abnormal stimulants. You mention eventualities and a coroner's inquiry, but why should a coroner and his jury be allowed to censure when a perfectly legitimate sale has been made? The Poisons Act mentions no moral obligation, nor does it state a customer should be warned.

Yours faithfully,  
WESTERN. (30/32.)

Our reply was to a query by a chemist who felt embarrassed because a customer for whom cocaine had been prescribed has reached a stage in its use at which he is buying twenty times more than was originally prescribed. We said that any obligation upon the querist is moral rather than legal. With this "Western" agrees. There is no occasion for preaching on this subject, but we find in practice that the question of stopping supplies of cocaine is considered and decided one way or other, and this is a suitable opportunity for having a published expression of opinion as to when, if at all, the dispensing chemist should (1) warn a customer about the danger of cocaine, and (2) stop the supplies. We assume that the customers are not otherwise vicious.—EDITOR, *C. & D.*]

### Middlesex Insurance Pharmacopœia.

SIR.—May I add a word of explanation to your note of last week on the Middlesex Formulary? The formulæ selected by the Joint Medical and Pharmaceutical Committee were submitted to the County Insurance Committee, but their adoption was deferred until after the formation of the new Committees. The Medical Committee, not content with this, have published these formulæ in card form, but the publication leaves much to be desired, and the Pharmaceutical Committee disclaim any responsibility for it. It is not official; it is purely a private venture. If the Medical Committee will present a copy to every chemist on the panel, well and good; but there is no necessity for any pharmacist to buy a copy, nor will the Insurance Committee recognise prescriptions written for preparations contained in the Middlesex Pharmacopœia, unless such prescriptions are written out in full. There is no official Middlesex Pharmacopœia yet.

Yours faithfully,  
ARTHUR E. BAILEY,  
Secretary, Middlesex Pharmaceutical Committee.

### "Teeth Carefully Extracted"

SIR.—It would be interesting to hear why the newer generation of chemists are giving up dentistry as a sideline and prefer to sell silver goods, razors, etc. The extraction of teeth may shortly be included in the benefits of the Insurance Act, and as the fees allowed will only

be small the qualified dentists will not want the work; therefore the Insurance Commissioners may find it necessary to make terms with others. The chemist with his knowledge of drugs, antiseptics, etc., is in a position to undertake minor dental operations, and the older generation considered it sufficiently profitable; in fact, a large proportion of the men registered under the Dentists Act, 1878, were qualified chemists, and their superior education enabled them to make very remunerative dental practices. We see occasionally a paragraph about a Chemists' Dental Society, but who knows anything about it? Are chemists giving up their oldest and most profitable side-line?

Yours faithfully,

DENS. (34/69.)

#### Insurance Dispensing Contract for 1914.

SIR,—By observation I find the three greatest grievances of the present contract which affect both chemist and insured patient are not dealt with in any way—viz., "Rep. Mist.," copying original prescriptions on to the repeat order, and the immense amount of clerical work, which are not paid for in any way, not excepting corks, paper, sealing-wax, breakages, etc. Another point in the interest of both chemist and patient is that doctors should be restricted to ordering not more than four days' supply of medicine at one time; also the minimum dispensing-fee should be 3d. Why should the Committee make concessions to the doctors and throw the work on to the chemist without any extra pay? The first three points should be settled at once before any chemist signs the contract. I suggest a meeting in London, consisting of the representatives, or the chemists themselves, of the four Chemists' Associations, and one and all pledge themselves not to sign the contract until the three points are settled. Promises of arbitration between Insurance Committee and Pharmaceutical Committee will not do. The chemists should certainly have the right for some competent persons to appear before the Insurance Committee on the three points. If not, it is like giving a man three months without his case having a trial.—Yours truly,

JUSTICE. (32/62.)

#### The Need of Federation.

SIR,—Now that the Insurance Act has created a better understanding between pharmacists, I would recommend, further, the closer linking-up of Chemists' Associations. There are many things I have in my mind that we shall have to fight for in order to come to our own, and the sooner a National Pharmaceutical Federation is formed the sooner we will be able to tackle everyday problems which are gradually encroaching on the rights of pharmacists generally. To mention one evil, I will turn to the retailing of ever-increasing profitless proprietary articles. We handle daily patent medicines and proprietary articles at an absolute loss, because I am certain that the expenses of every chemist in business range between 15 and 20 per cent.—often more—so that any article (and there are scores) that is sold at a lower value of profit is actually sold at a loss. Many advertisers go further than this. Not satisfied with allowing a minimum profit of 5 to 10 per cent., they actually try to persuade the public that the pharmacist often pushes a substitute in order to get more profit, and is therefore a fraud or a wicked person for deceiving the public. Surely we have put up with this sort of jargon long enough, and it is high time we formed a strong Federation, carrying a mandate to the manufacturers from all the chemists in the country, demanding a minimum profit of 33½ per cent. on turnover, or refuse to handle their products.

There is no necessity for ridiculous cutting to-day, the game is played out. Competition is keen enough to-day, and no sooner one firm cuts an article down to cost than the next day the competitor does the same, and therefore both lose a legitimate profit. Rexall have seen the slit in the armour of the modern chemist, and are taking advantage of the dissatisfaction and complaining of small profits, and they hope, by extensive advertising, to displace profitless patent medicines by creating a demand for Rexall goods with the aid of the individual chemist who is appointed agent. But this is only shifting the burden from one shoulder to the other, and is not fair to pharmacists as a body on account of one chemist being appointed

agent in one town, and to my thinking it is simply opening up another drug-store against our fellow-pharmacists. Now, are all the other chemists in the town going to sit down and see the business passing to one chemist through colossal advertising backed by American dollars and English capital? I know not. If the Rexall scheme is going to succeed, then wholesale drug-houses, perfumers, and sundries houses are going to feel the draught as well as the pharmacist who is outside the pale. I emphasise again the necessity of co-operation. The passing of the Insurance Act has already wakened us up to the fact that co-operation is absolutely necessary to our existence, therefore let us go on and make the thing complete. The public have shown, from the results of the Insurance dispensing returns, that their faith is still strong in the individual pharmacist; so let us keep that faith and be the Chemists to the Nation in fact, as we ought to be, since we hold the Charter.—Yours truly,

OLIVER TWIST. (18/26.)

#### Legal Rights of Chemists and Apothecaries' Assistants.

SIR,—Notwithstanding Mr. Welford's dictatorial assumptions, the only special privileges enjoyed by persons registered under the Pharmacy Acts dwell entirely in Section 15 of the 1868 Act, where a prohibition exists in their favour preventing other persons from assuming certain titles and keeping "open shop" for selling, retailing, and dispensing certain substances known as "poisons" in the Act. This may be "well worn," but if it is not as I state, will he keep strictly to the point, if it is possible for him to do so, and definitely state what other power he enjoys under the Pharmacy Acts that cannot be enjoyed by any other of his Majesty's lieges, "marginal notes" being duly considered? Further than that, the only statutory qualification extant in compounding and dispensing medicines specifically—i.e., that granted by the Society of Apothecaries—exists under an Act that does not recognise his right to dispense for medical practitioners holding the registrable qualification of the Society of Apothecaries, this prohibition being confirmed in the last sentence of Section 15 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868; this is never enforced now, I admit, and properly so, but at the same time it is a latent force that Mr. Welford might consider. In conclusion, I am forced to the belief that Mr. Welford can only take cognisance of evolutionary processes when they result in advantage to those of his own class, but he should not appeal to law, or the superstructure erected will be found to have a very defective foundation. The matters he mentions that are personal to himself have no interest whatever for me, and were not in any way called for by my letter, which dealt with *legal right*.

Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS E. TRAYNER,  
Hon. Sec., Association of Certificated Dispensers.

#### Exported Tinctures.

SIR,—Having occasion to require some tinct. moschi, it set me thinking how some wholesale drug-houses can quote tinct. moschi at 20s. a lb. in bond. The U.S.P. and Martindale state the strength to be 1 in 20, which I take to be 1 oz. of musk in 20 oz. of alcohol and water (equal parts). Now, the cheapest musk I can buy costs me 65s. an ounce, and four-fifths of 3l. 5s. I take to be 2l. 12s. Then there is the alcohol and the time and trouble of making it. Unless it is made with artificial musk, or made of a very reduced strength, I fail to see how it is done. Can any of your many readers explain?

Yours faithfully,

CHEMICUS. (34/5.)

Singapore.

#### Eucalyptus Oil and Scarlet Fever.

SIR,—Birmingham, along with many other towns, London included, is having a great many cases of scarlet fever, fortunately of a very mild type, and chemists generally must be doing a good business in disinfectants, etc. May I venture to suggest to chemists, what they in turn can pass on to their customers, the great value of eucalyptus oil as a disinfectant and as a safeguard in preventing and also in the treatment of this most trying disease? I have frequently recommended its use of late, and always with the most beneficial results, and

advice to customers at such times is always most highly appreciated :

1. Used as a disinfectant, by means of a spray such as is used by hairdressers, on articles of clothing, furniture, bedding, etc., it is most effectual.

2. A few drops taken on sugar by those coming in contact with the patient.

3. Mixed in equal proportion with olive oil, and the body of the patient anointed each day with the same, desquamation need not be feared.

4. Mixed with spirit, to make it soluble in water, and a little added to the water in the daily bath, the patient feels wonderfully refreshed, and it is a second line of defence against communicating this disease.

5. In these mild cases the desquamation in many instances does not extend beyond the hands; and in the case of children especially, it is advisable when this begins for the child to first dip the fingers in the olive oil and eucalyptus and wear a pair of cotton gloves, which gives the child the free use of his or her hands, and the risk of the skin falling on the bed-clothes or about the person of attendants is eliminated. These gloves to be washed daily in disinfectant.

The above notes may be all the more useful as, owing to the fever hospitals being full, many cases have to be treated at home, and the above treatment can be carried out without interfering in any way with the doctor's treatment of the case, who, in many instances, does not enter into these details.

Yours faithfully,  
WM. BOUSFIELD.

*We have still in type a number of letters to the Editor, for which room cannot be found in this issue.*

### Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

#### Blast Ointment.

*L. P. S. I.* (32/23) states that he is often asked for "Blast ointment," and he asks us to tell him what it is. Suggestions are invited.

#### Hints as to Removal Wanted.

I am expecting to move my business in a short time to premises about 20 yds. away from the present. I should be grateful for any tips that may be available from others who have had a similar experience.—*Experiencia Docet* (29/55).

#### Fixed Stoppers.

What a blessing it would be if some genius would invent a bottle-stopper which would not become fixed! It always happens when one is in a hurry and with the most awkward substances, such as mineral acids or solutions of corrosive salts. There is a great opening for experiment. Has anything been done in this matter?—*Bluebottle* (8/19).

#### Optical Problem.

Arrange with any handy material a very simple apparatus which will show (a) the true character of presbyopia, and (b) will at the same time enable an eye thus affected to read at normal distance printed matter which would otherwise be illegible without the assistance of a refracting medium. I send you this, writes *Subscriber* (91/19), because I have never seen any suggestion of it in optical works, and some of your readers might be able to make suggestions.

#### Advertised Prescriptions.

*Dolichos* (25/68) writes complaining about the way in which proprietary medicines are now advertised to the public in the guise of paragraphs of "literary matter," but especially in the form of "Answers to correspondents." "It cannot be questioned" (he adds) "that these advertisements do deceive and mislead the public." He accordingly appeals to chemists to give the matter their attention, and not lend themselves to assisting in taking from the public, especially from young girls, hard-earned money to purchase so-called "aids to beauty."

#### Official Trading: Can it be Stopped?

At the public schools here the teachers announce to the children daily that they can be supplied with malt and oil in 1-lb. tins at 5½d. each. I am under the impression that public bodies are not allowed to trade except by special permission of Parliament. In any case, this unjust competition has taken away my trade in malt and oil entirely,

so I should be pleased to know if this can be stopped, and to whom should I state a complaint.—*W. R. W.* (24/29).

[Perhaps some subscribers who have assisted in stopping such unfair competitive trading will tell us how it was done.—*EDITOR, C. & D.*]

#### Tinct. Valer. Ammon.

*Abel Scholar* writes: In the preparation of tr. valerianæ ammoniata there are essential oils added, so too in the case of ammoniated tincture of guaiacum and compound tincture of lavender. Formerly the first two were prepared with aromatic spirit of ammonia. In preparing the compound tincture of lavender the maceration with the spirit is conducted first, and after filtration from the exhausted sandalwood and cinnamon the oils are added. Would not this be the more rational mode of procedure in making tr. valer. amm., seeing that the marc often retains much of the volatile oil?

### Insurance Dispensing Queries.

ADRENINE AND COCAINE SUPPOSITORIES.—*L. R. D.* (29/51).—Charging for twelve suppositories at Tariff rates for ingredients makes the price 1s. 5d., including dispensing-fee. The rules of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee presume that you would make these yourself, and as your wholesaler charges 2s. you supply at a loss.

"OUT OF AREA" PRESCRIPTIONS.—*J. W.* (30/31).—There is no "clearing house" for Insurance prescriptions other than those for temporary residents, which are paid for out of the Central Drug Fund, and you can only recover payment for ordinary prescriptions belonging to an area other than that for which you are on the panel by presenting them through the account of a friendly chemist who has an account with the Insurance Committee concerned.

CHLORINE WATER, B.P.C.—*W. H. P.* (28/17).—Probably the panel doctor means by that Liquor Chlori, B.P., to which the B.P.C. gives the synonym, Aqua Chlori. It is advisable to dispense this in the following prescription:

Chlorine water, B.P.C.

Six bottles of 3xij. each.

Sig.: The corks to be left out of the bottles until the liquid is no longer fuming or pungent to smell. In this state two tablespoonsfuls to be taken, in as much lemonade as desired, at 2 P.M., 4 P.M., and 6 P.M. each day. Do not give Dr. Burney Yeo's mixture.

### Legal Queries.

Before writing about your difficulty consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1913, pp. 211-242 and pp. 457-459, where most legal difficulties are anticipated.

*W. H. R.* (32/22).—You will find all information in regard to the registration of limited liability companies in the *C. & D. Diary*, p. 242.

ASPIRIN (33/34).—If a HEAD-POWDER is said to be "safe and efficacious" it may be regarded as being outside the condition under which it is permitted to be sold unstamped—viz., that nothing shall be said which indicates the action of the remedy on the head. The addition is an implication rather than an assertion as to the action of the remedy, but should be avoided.

*Pasol* (24/53) recently heard of the bankruptcy of a tradesman who, on the previous day, had paid him an account. Can he be compelled to return the amount paid to him? [“Pasol” is entitled to keep the money, provided he received the payment before the date of the receiving order, and was not then aware of any available act of bankruptcy committed by the bankrupt; and provided the payment did not amount to a “fraudulent preference” of “Pasol” over the other creditors on the part of the tradesman. Otherwise he must refund the amount paid to him.]

*D. H.* (30/66) employs a traveller within a specified area, who is paid a commission upon orders he secures. An extra piece of ground was given to the traveller, who worked it on one occasion, and then abandoned it with the consent, although against the wish, of “D. H.” Subsequently “D. H.” has received orders direct from customers residing in the abandoned area, who were originally introduced by the traveller. Is the traveller entitled to commission on such orders? [The agency having been determined as regards the abandoned area, we are of opinion that, unless the terms of his employment give him such a right, the traveller is not entitled to claim commission upon the subsequent orders.]

### Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles, and when samples are sent particulars should be supplied to us as to their origin, what they are, what they are used for and how.

We do not as a rule repeat information which has been given in this section during the past twelve months, as it occupies space which can be more profitably utilised for other information. In such cases the numbers are mentioned, and if querists cannot refer to these they may obtain the numbers from the "C. & D." Office at the published prices, usually 6d.

*J. W. B.* (61/37).—(1) MOUTH-WASH TABLETS.—The composition of the effervescent mouth-wash tablets is as follows:

Sodium bicarbonate	... ...	5 <i>j.</i>
Sodium borate	... ...	3 <i>j.</i>
Sodium chloride	... ...	3 <i>j.</i>
Tartaric acid	... ...	3 <i>j.</i>
Sodium salicylate	... ...	4 gr.
Sodium benzoate	... ...	4 gr.
Thymol	... ...	1 gr.
Eucalyptol	... ...	1 gr.
Menthol	... ...	½ gr.
Cinnamon oil	... ...	1 minim

The tablets are not easy to manufacture, but the best method seems to be to make two separate granular mixtures, the one containing the alkali, and the other the sodium bicarbonate. These are then dried separately, and mixed before compressing. (2) We are much obliged for the prescription, which is of great interest.

*E. B.* (18/7).—MARKING-INK STAINS.—To remove these it is necessary to know the variety of ink that was used in marking the collars. If a silver ink, iodine followed by potassium cyanide will be effectual. If an aniline ink has been employed, use alternately dilute solutions of potassium permanganate and sulphurous acid, washing with water between the applications.

*G. D. M.* (17/64).—(1) CHEMICAL LECTURES.—The question of the subject of popular chemical lectures by pharmacists crops up at regular intervals, and at various times we have printed notes on particular lectures. The following are references: *C. & D.*, February 15, 1908, p. 279 (on "Matter"); February 22, p. 313 (on "Water"); February 29, p. 349 ("Some Interesting Drugs"); March 7, p. 385 ("The Breakfast Table"). Some years previously a *C. & D.* postcard competition was held on this subject, and produced useful results. You will get many ideas from reading Martin's "Triumphs and Wonders of Modern Chemistry" (Low, Marston & Co., 7s. 6d.) and Lassar-Cohn's "Chemistry in Daily Life" (Grevel, 5s.). (2) CASEIN FOODS.—The proportion of sodium glycerophosphate added to casein in these foods is 5 per cent. Some contain calcium glycerophosphate. (3) You might try the effect of adding water to the soap-spirit lotion, as doubtless the high proportion of spirit prevents the soap from lathering.

*J. B.* (21/73).—We are not acquainted with the proprietary article to which you refer.

*K. S. D.* (22/64).—DUPLICATOR INK.—The variety of duplicator in which a wax-surfaced paper is employed requires an aniline ink. The basis of the ink is as follows:

Glycerin	... ...	1 lb.
Honey	... ...	6 oz.
Black treacle	... ...	1½ oz.
Sugar candy	... ...	6 oz.
Methylated spirit	... ...	4 oz.
Water	... ...	2 pints

These are heated together (except the spirit) until a homogeneous mass is obtained. The spirit is used for dissolving the aniline black (about 1 oz. is required for the above quantity) or any other colour that is desired.

*S. A. W.* (26/5).—Deposition of sulphur on the skin is the best cure for itch. The ease in which this has been tried through liq. calcis sulphurat., and failed, should be seen by a specialist.

*E. A.* (1/28).—MOTTOES OF MEDICAL CORPORATIONS.—The following are the only ones we can trace: Royal College of Surgeons of England, "Quae proustant omnibus artes" [Arts that are useful to all]; the Apothecaries' Company, "Opiferae per orbem dieror" [I am called an assistant throughout the world]; King and Queen's College of Physicians, Ireland, "Ratione et experientia" [By reason and experience]; Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland, "Et valitudinem et medicinam promovere" [To promote both health and medicine].

*Oxon* (2/67).—CURE FOR SPLINT, RING-BONE, SIDE-BONE, ETC.—The following is the formula for a preparation which at one time enjoyed a considerable reputation in the veterinary world:

Camphor	... ...	1½ oz.
Mercury perchloride	... ...	1½ dr.
Oil of amber	... ...	3 oz.
Spirit of turpentine	... ...	4 oz.
Rectified spirit,		
Oil of thyme	... ...	of each 2 oz.

The directions given with the preparation are important: For *splint*—First clip the hair off the splint or excrecence and cleanse with hot water. Rub the part dry, and apply the liquid at once, rubbing it in well with a piece of flannel for five minutes. Repeat this daily, three to twelve applications being needed. The hair will come off at first, but quickly grow again, leaving no blemish. When the excrecence has completely disappeared bathe the part twice a day with cold water for about a week. The horse must not be worked while the preparation is being used. For *ring- or side-bones* a similar procedure is needed, three to twelve dressings being required. For *spavin* about fifteen rubbings will make a horse sound, and twenty rubbings will completely remove the exostitis. *Sore shins* are cured by one application. The horse can be walked for a few days till the inflammation has subsided, when ordinary work may be resumed.

*Sapo* (19/54).—METAL-POLISHING CREAM.—The following is on the lines of the sample you send:

Petroleum spirit	... ...	32 parts
Solution of ammonia	... ...	3 parts
Water	... ...	45 parts
Carbon tetrachloride	... ...	6½ parts
Kieselguhr	... ...	8 parts
White bole	... ...	4 parts
Chalk	... ...	8 parts

Mix well to form a cream.

*Hopeful* (8/20).—HAIR-WASH POWDER.—The following is a recipe for the class of hair-wash powder to which you refer:

Powdered jaborandi	... ...	5 <i>j.</i>
Powdered sage	... ...	3 <i>j.</i>
Resorcin	... ...	gr. xx.
Powdered borax to make	... ...	5 <i>ss.</i>

Mix. Label: *Hair-wash powder*. Pour half a pint of boiling water upon the contents of this packet, and stir occasionally until cold. Then strain through a piece of linen, place into a bottle, and add two tablespoonfuls of eau de Cologne. A little of the lotion is to be brushed into the scalp once daily.

*W. G. C.* (26/70).—We do not understand your inquiry as to mixing neat's-foot oil and mineral oil. Will you explain what your difficulty is?

### Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," November 14, 1863.

The Marshall Hall and Silvester Methods of Restoring Animation.

At a recent meeting of the Metropolitan Association of Medical Officers of Health (Dr. R. Dundas Thomson, F.R.S., President) a letter was read from the Royal National Life-Boat Institution, referring to Dr. Marshall Hall's method for the restoration of the apparently drowned, and a modification proposed by Dr. H. R. Silvester; and asking the opinion of the Association on their relative merits. Dr. Silvester was present, and illustrated his plan on a boy. It consisted in laying the patient on the back, slightly raising the head and shoulders, drawing the tongue forwards, and keeping it so by passing an elastic band over it and under the chin. The arms are then grasped just above the elbows, and drawn gently upwards until they meet above the head (this is for the purpose of drawing air into the lungs), keeping the arms in that position for two seconds. The patient's arms are then turned down, and pressed gently and firmly for two seconds against the sides of the chest (this is for the purpose of pressing the air out of the lungs). Artificial breathing is thus carried on. These efforts are to be repeated fifteen times in a minute, until a spontaneous effort to respire is perceived. During the employment of these means, excite the nostrils with snuff or smelling-salts, or tickle the throat with a feather. After natural breathing has been restored, warmth and circulation are to be induced by wrapping the body in hot blankets, applying bottles or bladders of hot water, heated bricks, etc., to the pit of the stomach, the armpits, between the thighs, and to the soles of the feet, and by rubbing the limbs firmly and energetically.

## COLONIAL AND FOREIGN NEWS.

THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC will shortly be in possession of a Bacteriological Institute at Buenos Ayres, to be run on similar lines to the Pasteur Institute of Paris. Professor Rudolf Kraus, late of Vienna, intends to organise a school of bacteriologists in connection therewith and to manufacture serums.

**PHARMACY IN EGYPT.**—The "Pharmazeutische Nachrichten" gives some interesting information by Apotheker Kierulf Petersen, of Berne, regarding the pharmacist's position in Egypt. Every pharmacist holding a diploma of no matter what country is at liberty to carry on a pharmacy, provided he obtains the permission of the Board of Health in Cairo before opening the pharmacy. The French Pharmacopœia occupies the principal position in pharmacies, but where foreign customers predominate, the British Pharmacopœia is generally used. The assistants employed are mostly English, French, and German, and beside the knowledge of international pharmacy, they are expected to master the English, French, and German languages. The salary generally amounts to 15L. per month in Egyptian money (1L.E.=1L. Os. 6*1/2*d. English). In outlying parts of the town the assistants are usually Jewish or Syrian, but their salaries are lower. The hours of business are, as a rule, from 8 A.M. to 11 or 12 P.M., according to the season and the number of foreign visitors. The time allowed for lunch is generally one and a half to two hours. One afternoon off a week and every other Sunday are allowed usually to foreign assistants, but in businesses with a foreign *clientèle*, where two or more assistants are employed, arrangements are generally possible for a more liberal allowance of leisure. The practice of pharmacy partakes more of a commercial than a professional character, and, states Herr Petersen, any pharmacist intending to go out to Egypt should not lose sight of this fact. A sojourn in Cairo for the European pharmacist is an agreeable change of work, and, in any case, there is no lack of work. Any-one going to Egypt should be prepared to make considerable concessions not only with regard to his practical activity, but in some degree also to his social position.

**VIENNA HOSPITALS STATISTICS.**—Some interesting statistical tables dealing with the supply of drugs to the Vienna hospitals were exhibited at the recent International Pharmaceutical Exhibition. Since 1895 the supply of medicines to the town hospitals has been systematised, and there exist at present nine hospital pharmacies under the direction of a specially appointed board, to which is attached a central laboratory where galenical preparations are made. The staff employed numbers ninety-three, the largest pharmacy being that in the Imperial Royal General Hospital, in which twenty-five persons are employed, ten pharmacists being occupied solely with the work of making up prescriptions for the patients of the hospital and the clinics, in all embracing about 2,300 beds. The consumption of various drugs and dressings from 1898 to 1912, also tabulated, showed the great increase that has taken place, viz.:

	1898. Kilos.	1912. Kilos.
Codeine	5	15
Chloroform	696	1,252
Absolute alcohol	487.5	7,227
Hydrogen peroxide	12.5	7,540
Zinc oxide	100	1,015
Vaseline	1,500	5,000
Cotton-wool	6,000	17,700
Bandages	67,000	390,000
Cotton-wool, packages	23,000	44,000

The quantity of volumetric solutions used in the central laboratory has increased in the same period from 50 litres to 1,300 litres, the number of tubes of culture media prepared from 4,500 to 32,400. The consumption of boric-acid ointment amounted to 600 kilos. in 1898, and rose to 4,000 kilos. in 1908, falling to 3,600 kilos. in 1912.

MR. REGINALD EDWARD EVANS, analytical chemist, Berwick House, Stratford-on-Avon, who died on October 14, left estate valued at 1,581L. 3s. 8d. gross, with net personality 1,301L. 19s. 4d.

## COMING EVENTS.

This section of the "C. & D." is reserved for advance notices of meetings or other events. These should be sent to the Editor by Wednesday of the week before the meetings, etc., occur.

Monday, December 1.

*Society of Chemical Industry, London Section, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.1, at 8 P.M.* Dr. E. J. Russell and Mr. Buddin on "The Use of Antiseptics for Soil Sterilisation Purposes."

Tuesday, December 2.

*Röntgen Society, Institution of Electrical Engineers, Victoria Embankment, London, W.C., at 8.15 P.M.* Dr. Hampson, Professor W. G. Duffield, and Dr. T. Murray on "Sterilisation of Milk by Electrified Gas." Mr. C. E. S. Phillips will exhibit and describe some new radium-emanation applicators.

*Glasgow Pharmacy Athletic Club, Sloan's Café, Argyle Arcade, at 8 P.M.* Smoking-concert. Tickets (1s. each) from Mr. W. J. Moffat, 741 Pollokshaws Road.

*Tees-side Optical Society, Victoria Restaurant, Stockton, at 8 P.M.* Mr. J. M. Skilbeck on "Observation and Deduction in the Testing-room," and Mr. A. Wood on "Visual Perception of Colour."

Wednesday, December 3.

*Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, London, W.C., at 8 P.M.* Mr. J. C. Umney, F.C.S., on "Perfumery."

*Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., at 11 A.M.* Council-meeting.

*Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, at 3 P.M.* Council-meeting.

*Middlesex County Association of Pharmacists, Venetian Chamber, Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C., at 7.30 P.M.* Annual dinner, at which Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., is expected to be present. Tickets (7s. 6d. each) from Mr. A. E. Bailey, Hon. Secretary, 64 High Street, Highgate, N.

*South-West London Pharmacists' Association, Slater's Restaurant, Victoria Street, London, S.W., at 7 P.M.* Whist-drive. Tickets from Mr. E. A. Atkins, Hon. Secretary, 71 East Hill, Wandsworth, S.W.

*Nottingham Pharmaceutical Association, Victoria Station Hotel, at 8 P.M.* Social meeting.

Thursday, December 4.

*Chemical Society, Burlington House, London, W., at 8.30 P.M.* Among the papers to be communicated are the following: "Action of Sulphuric Acid on Copper," by the late Mr. J. T. Cundall; "Reactions which Occur when Glycerol and Oxalic Acid are Heated together, whereby Formic Acid and Allyl Alcohol are Produced," by Mr. F. D. Chattaway; "The Rotatory Dispersive Power of Organic Compounds. Part V.—A Comparison of the Optical and Magnetic Rotatory Dispersions in some Optically-active Liquids," by Messrs. T. M. Lowry, R. H. Pickard, and J. Kenyon; "Organic Derivatives of Silicon. Part XX.—Some Condensation Product of Dimethylsilicanediol," by Messrs. R. Robinson and F. S. Kipping.

*Chemists' Assistants' Association, Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, London, W.C., at 9 P.M.* Mr. E. H. Brittain on "Perfumes: Old and New." This meeting is open to ladies, whom the Council invite to be present.

*Great Yarmouth Pharmaceutical Association, 156 King Street, at 8.30 P.M.* Ordinary meeting.

**HULL PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION.**—The annual dinner will be held at the Grosvenor Hotel on December 11. Tickets (4s. each) from Mr. Walter Stanning, Hon. Secretary.

**PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.**—The evening meeting which would in the ordinary course have been held on December 9 has been postponed on account of the great pressure of detail work on the officials in connection with the pharmaceutical service administration.

**LIVERPOOL AND BIRKENHEAD CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.**—The annual smoking-concert in aid of the Benevolent Fund will be held on Wednesday, December 10, at the Bear's Paw Restaurant, Lord Street, Liverpool. Meers. Lord Gifford, Rowsell, and Woolcock have promised to attend.

**INCORPORATED SOCIETY OF PHARMACY AND DRUG STORE PROPRIETORS.**—A smoking-concert is to be held at the Victoria Hotel, Leeds, on December 10, when a presentation will be made to Mr. James O'Grady, M.P., in recognition of his services. Tickets can be obtained from the Secretary, Mr. N. D. Vine, 5 Oxford Place, Leede.

**CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.**—A Cinderella dance will be held at the Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C., on December 11, with Mr. C. W. Martin as M.C. Tickets (single 5s. 6d., double 10s., including supper) from the Hon. Secretaries, Mr. A. Haigh, The Dispensary, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C., and Mr. W. P. Styles, 11 Brunswick Road, Kingston-on-Thames. We are asked to state that as the issue of tickets for this popular function is limited, early application should be made.

MR. GEORGE NEWTON WING, retired chemist and druggist, 1 Cottesmore Avenue, Melton Mowbray, who died at Skegness on August 13, aged seventy, left estate valued at 1,874L. 18s. 8d. gross, with net personality 1,833L. 0s. 4d.

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